

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT Elizabeth T. Bentley

FILE NO. 134-435

SECTION NO. 1

SERIALS 1

THRO

80

## **NOTICE**

**THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.**

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEYDate: 2/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
1	9/8/48	LETTER N.H. TO HQ.	1	1	
2 inc.	10/12/48	LETTER FM. 3RD PARTY	1	1	
2 OUT.	10/22/48	LETTER FM. HQ. TO 3RD PARTY	1	1	
3	10/29/48	LETTER FM. LADD TO HQ.	1	1	
4	11/4/48	LETTER FLETCHER TO LADD	1	1	
5	11/13/48	TELETYPE FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
6	12/16/48	TELETYPE FM NH TO HQ	2	2	
7	12/20/48	LETTER FM FLETCHER TO LADD	1	1	
8	12/23/48	TELETYPE FM NH TO HQ	1	1	
9	1/26/49	TELETYPE FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
10	3/18/49	LETTER FM. BIRM. TO HQ.	2	2	
11	5/3/49	TELETYPE FM N.Y. TO HQ	1	1	

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BentleyDate: 2/78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
12	5/11/49	TELETYPE FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
12	6/24/49	LETTER FM HV TO AG	1	1	
13	6/21/49	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
14	8/17/49	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
15	2/21/50	LETTER FM CG TO HQ	1	1	
16	2/28/50	TELETYPE FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
17	2/28/50	LETTER ADD TO HV	1	1	
18	4/17/50	LETTER NY TO HQ	1	1	
19	4/10/50	LETTER TO HQ FM NY	1	1	
20	5/3/50	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
21	6/13/50	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
22	6/15/50	LETTER FM ADD TO HV	1	1	



File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEYDate: 2/78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
23	6/15/50	LETTER HENNRICH TO BELMONT	1	1	
24	6/23/50	LETTER NY TO HQ w/1 COPY	4	4	2(NC)
25	7/31/50	w/ ENCL. (1 PG.) LETTER N.H. TO HQ	3	3	1(NC)
26	9/21/50	TELETYPE N.H. TO HQ	1	1	
NR	10/16/50	LETTER LADD TO BELMONT	1	1	
27	10/19/50	LETTER FM. NY TO HQ	1	1	
28 inc.	10/16/50	TELETYPE FM. NY TO HQ	3	3	
28 out.	10/17/50	LETTER FM HQ TO NY	1	1	
NR	10/27/50	TELETYPE FM NY TO HQ	3	3	
29	10/30/50	TELETYPE FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
30	10/30/50	LETTER FM BELMONT TO LADD	1	1	
31	11/1/50	LETTER FM BELMONT TO LADD	2	0	REFERRED TO GOVT. AGENCY

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BentleyDate: 2/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
32	11/2/50	TELETYPE FM NY TO HQ	2	2	
NR	11/3/50	LETTER FM LADD TO HV	2	2	
33	12/15/50	PRESS RELEASE	1	1	
34	1/2/51	PRESS RELEASE	1	1	
NR	1/4/51	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	3	3	
35	1/24/51	LETTER FM NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
36	2/23/51	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
37	3/3/51	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
38	3/28/51	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
39	4/25/51	LETTER FM NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
40	4/26/51	PRESS RELEASE RE. SUBJECT	2	2	
NR	4/24/51	LETTER TO HQ FM NY	1	1	

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEYDate: 2/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
41	4/26/51	LETTER FM HQ TO NY. w/ENCL.	2	2	
NR	4/28/51	LETTER FM HQ TO NY	1	1	
42	5/9/51	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
43	5/24/51	FORM 4-1117 - EBF w/ENCL.	1	1	
44 inc	7/10/51	LETTER FM 3RD PARTY	4	4	1(N.C.)
44 out	7/20/51	NY. LETTER TO 3RD PARTY	1	1	
45 out	10/9/51	LETTER FM HQ TO NY	2	2	
45 inc	7/29/51	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
46	10/6/51	LETTER JONES TO NICHOLS	1	1	
47	10/10/51	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	
48	10/18/51	LETTER NH TO HQ w/ENCL	2	2	
49	10/20/51	LETTER NICHOLS TO TOLSON	1	1	

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEYDate: 2/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
50	1/3/52	INFORMANT REPORT	1	1	
51	1/21/51	INTERNAL MEMO TO HY.	1	1	
52	1/23/52	LETTER FM NY TO HQ	1	1	
53	3/13/52	LETTER HY TO AAG	2	2	
NR	5/8/52	LETTER CLEVE. TO BELMONT	2	2	
54 inc	5/7/52	LETTER NY TO HQ	1	1	
54 out	5/19/52	LETTER HQ TO NY	1	1	
55	5/13/52	LETTER BELMONT TO LADD	1	1	
56	5/13/52	LETTER BELMONT TO LADD	3	3	
57	5/15/52	LETTER BELMONT TO LADD	1	1	
58 inc	5/16/52	W/2 PG. ENCL. LETTER 4 PG NY TO HQ w/1	10	10	5 (N.C.)
58 out	5/22/52	LETTER HQ TO NY	1	1	

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BentleyDate: 2/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
59 inc.	7/10/52	LETTER NY TO HQ w/1 COPY	6	6	3(N.C.)
59 OUT	7/16/52	LETTER HQ TO NY	1	1	
60	7/16/52	LETTER BRANIGAN TO BELMONT	2	2	
61	8/29/52	LETTER BELMONT TO LADD	2	2	
62	8/29/52	w/1 COPY TELETYPE N.H. TO HQ	4	4	2(N.C.)
63	9/4/52	LETTER NY TO HQ w/1 COPY	6	6	3(N.C.)
64	9/6/52	TELETYPE N.H. TO HQ	1	1	
65	9/22/52	LETTER HENNRICH TO BELMONT	1	1	
66	9/26/52	w/1 copy - 2-10pgs. LETTER NY TO HQ	18	18	9(N.C.)
67	9/26/52	LETTER BELMONT TO LADD	2	2	
68	10/6/52	LETTER HENNRICH TO BELMONT	1	1	
69 inc.	10/8/52	LETTER NY TO HQ	1	1	

File No: 134-435Re: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEYDate: 2/78  
(month/year)

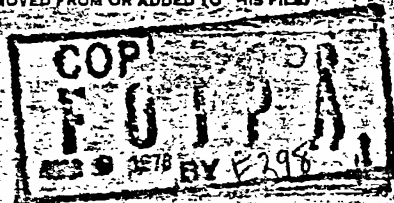
Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
69	10/22/52	HQ TO NY - LETTER	1	1	
70	10/15/52	LETTER: BRANIGAN TO BELMONT	2	2	
71	11/17/52	LETTER NH TO DIR	1	1	
72 INC	11/16/53	LETTER NY TO HQ	1	1	
72 OUT	2/3/53	LETTER HQ TO NY	1	1	
73	2/25/53	w/1 COPY AIRTEL NY TO HQ	2	2	1(N.C.)
NR	3/9/53	LETTER HQ TO WFO	1	1	
NR	2/5/53	LETTER NY TO HQ	2	2	
74	3/16/53	w/1 COPY w/ENCL. LETTER BELMONT TO LADD	13	13	4(N.C.)
75	4/10/53	LETTER BICH TO HQ	1	1	
76	4/10/53	w/1 COPY LETTER NY TO HQ	4	4	2(N.C.)
77 inc	5/1/53	LETTER N.O. TO HQ	1	1	

Date 2/78  
(month/year)

**FILED**

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)



FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

134  
435

SECTION 1  
SERIALS 1-80

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, New Haven  
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 9/6/48

(b)(7)(D) The following information was furnished by New Haven informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau and is comment made by RUTH ERICKSON, a long-time Communist in the New Milford area who is herself the subject of New Haven file 100-11405.

There was initially casual comment concerning Miss BENTLEY and then ERICKSON said [redacted]

(b)(7)(D)

(b)(7)(D)

Concerning the \$2,000 Miss BENTLEY has testified she received, [redacted]

ERICKSON also stated that [redacted]

(b)(7)(D)

(b)(7)(D)

JCC:gml  
100-0-  
cc: 100-9126

RECORDED - 118  
INDEXED - 116

134 - 435 - 1

6 SEP 10 1948

Morrish Wash.

Oct 17/48

Mr J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation;  
Washington, D. C.

51704

Dear Sir:--

I am enclosing herewith a letter to Miss Elizabeth T. Bentley whose address and whereabouts is unknown to me but is probably well known to you.

Since I assume that the F. B. I. is taking every precaution to protect Miss Bentley from the possible vengeance of the 'Reds', you would hardly forward any mail to her without careful investigation. I am therefore leaving her letter open for your full scrutiny before forwarding it. I don't know much about 'boobytraps', but suppose it might be possible to conceal one in a fairly fat letter

Sincerely

*Arthur Bailey*  
Arthur Bailey,  
Monroe, Wash.

*Recd. 10/22/48  
try*

SE

RECORDED - 116  
INDEXED - 116

134-435-2

EX-49

OCT 28 1948

RECORDED - 116  
EX-45

October 22, 1948

51703

~~67-6378-97~~ 134-435-2

Mr. Arthur Bailey  
Monroe, Washington

Dear Mr. Bailey:

G. I. R. - 5

Your letter of October 12, 1948, enclosing a letter to Miss Elizabeth T. Bentley has been received.

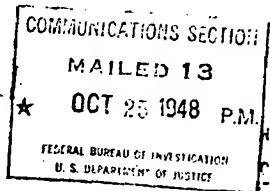
A long-standing policy precludes me from complying with your request and I am therefore returning the enclosure to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

FRY:phstd



Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

DATE: *October 29, 1948*

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH I. CANTLEY

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Holmes  
Miss Gandy

359213

Elizabeth Bentley stated that she told Msgr. Sheen that she had been dealing with two Agents from the New York Office over a period of the past couple of years who appeared to be very fine men. She asked if she should pass this information on from Msgr. Sheen to Agent Joe Kelly and he asked her to do so and to have her tell Agent Kelly that he would like to establish contact with someone in the Bureau well versed in Communism, preferably a Catholic, inasmuch as he could talk more freely with a Catholic.

**DML: dad**

9 suggest no action -  
Kelley was told to  
do nothing 10/29

2 Right. I think I  
mag. I've wanted to  
criticise the Bureau he  
knows how. We have  
always had pleasant  
relations with him.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD *WHL*  
 FROM : MR. H. B. FLETCHER *HBF*  
 SUBJECT: GREGORY  
 (ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY)

DATE: November 4, 1948

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ASAC Belmont of the New York Office called at 4:00 P.M. today and advised that this informant, who has been taking instructions from Monsignor Sheen preparatory to her conversion to Catholicism, is scheduled to come to Washington today for the purpose of being Baptized by Monsignor Sheen. Mr. Belmont stated that Mr. and Mrs. Louis Budenz are to be the informant's sponsors in this ceremony.

LLL:mer

RECORDED - 41

INDEXED - 41

134-435-4  
 G. J. R. - 7  
 4 NOV 9 1948  
*gdf*

*100-267*  
 100-267  
 100-267

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 13 1948

TELETYPE

Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

CONF WASH AND WASH FLD FROM NEW YORK 1 13 11-16 AM

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

GREGORY, ESP-R. SEVERAL LOCAL NEWSPAPERS ARE CARRYING STORIES IN THEIR EDITIONS OF LAST NIGHT AND THIS AM THAT ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY IS MISSING AND THAT USM HERE UNABLE TO DATE TO LOCATE HER TO MAKE SERVICE OF PROCESS IN SLANDER AND LIBEL ACTION BROUGHT BY W. W. REMINGTON. IN AFFIDAVIT FILED IN USDC, SDNY, NOVEMBER TWELVTH LAST, RICHARD G. GREEN, NYC ATTORNEY FOR REMINGTON, RECITED INABILITY OF USM TO MAKE SERVICE AND GREEN RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM CLERK OF USDC TO SERVE HER HIMSELF. ATTACHED TO GREEN AFFIDAVIT WAS AFFIDAVIT BY JOSEPH L. RAUH, JR., WASHINGTON ATTORNEY FOR REMINGTON, THAT WILLIAM P. ROGERS AND ROBERT E. STRIPLING PROFESSED IGNORANCE OF WHEREABOUTS OF BENTLEY. LATTER COMMUNICATED WITH THIS OFFICE THIS AM RE ABOVE PUBLICITY AND ADVISED SHE IS CONSULTING HER ATTORNEY RE MATTER. NO INQUIRIES RE WHEREABOUTS OF BENTLEY RECEIVED THIS OFFICE.

SCHEIDT

RECORDED - 86

INDEXED - 86

EX-37

NOV 16 1948

TWO COPIES WFO

63 DEC 2 1948

NY R T WA

cc: Mr. Jones

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 16 1948

TELETYPE

51701

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Egan

Mr. Gurnea

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Mohr

Mr. Pennington

Mr. Quinn Tamm

Mr. Nease

Mr. Gurnea

FBI NEW HAVEN

12-16-48

5-38 PM

DIRECTOR FBI URGENT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, INFO CONCERNING. FOR THE BUREAU INFO, EX AGENT  
PAUL CULLINAN, BRIDGEPORT, CONN., ADVISED THIS OFFICE TODAY THAT  
ROBERT JUDGE, ALSO AN EX AGENT, CONTACTED HIM ON DECEMBER FIFTEENTH  
LAST AND ADVISED THAT HE IS CONDUCTING PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS, AND AT  
THE PRESENT TIME IS CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION FOR WILLIAM DONOVAN,  
FORMER CHIEF OF THE OSS, WHO IS REPRESENTING WILLIAM REMINGTON OF  
STAMFORD, CONN. ACCORDING TO JUDGE, DONOVAN IS OF THE OPINION BENTLEY  
IS WRONG IN THE TESTIMONY SHE GAVE AGAINST REMINGTON AND IS TRYING TO  
BREAK DOWN HER TESTIMONY IN THIS CONNECTION. A FRIEND OF JUDGE,  
NAME UNKNOWN, ADVISED THAT SHE SAW AN ACCOUNT IN THE BRIDGEPORT POST  
IN SEPT. OR OCT. FORTYEIGHT TO THE EFFECT THAT ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
RECEIVED TREATMENT AT THE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS, YALE UNIVERSITY.  
A NURSE, WHOSE NAME IS UNKNOWN AND WHO IS ALSO A FRIEND OF JUDGE,  
CONTACTED DR. FREDERICK C. REDLICH, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY, YALE  
UNIVERSITY, IN AN EFFORT TO ASCERTAIN IF BENTLEY HAD RECEIVED TREAT-  
MENT THERE. REDLICH WAS NON COMMITTAL AND STATED ALL INFO WAS CONFI-  
DENTIAL. EX AGENT CULLINAN INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER THIS OFFICE HAD ANY  
KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH TREATMENT BEING AFFORDED BENTLEY AND NO INFO WAS  
GIVEN TO HIM IN THIS CONNECTION. THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE  
THIS OFFICE IF ANY ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN.

RECORDED - 34  
GLEASON

FBI

INDEX

12 JAN 1949

KK

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 16 1948

TELETYPE

51702

Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

FBI NEW HAVEN

12-16-48

5-38 PM

DIRECTOR FBI U R G E N T

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, INFO CONCERNING. FOR THE BUREAU INFO, EX AGENT PAUL CULLINAN, BRIDGEPORT, CONN., ADVISED THIS OFFICE TODAY THAT ROBERT JUDGE, ALSO AN EX AGENT, CONTACTED HIM ON DECEMBER FIFTEENTH LAST AND ADVISED THAT HE IS CONDUCTING PRIVATE INVESTIGATIONS, AND AT THE PRESENT TIME IS CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION FOR WILLIAM DONOVAN, FORMER CHIEF OF THE OSS, WHO IS REPRESENTING WILLIAM REMINGTON OF STAMFORD, CONN. ACCORDING TO JUDGE, DONOVAN IS OF THE OPINION BENTLEY IS WRONG IN THE TESTIMONY SHE GAVE AGAINST REMINGTON AND IS TRYING TO BREAK DOWN HER TESTIMONY IN THIS CONNECTION. A FRIEND OF JUDGE, NAME UNKNOWN, ADVISED THAT SHE SAW AN ACCOUNT IN THE BRIDGEPORT POST IN SEPT. OR OCT. FORTYEIGHT TO THE EFFECT THAT ELIZABETH BENTLEY RECEIVED TREATMENT AT THE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS, YALE UNIVERSITY. A NURSE, WHOSE NAME IS UNKNOWN AND WHO IS ALSO A FRIEND OF JUDGE, CONTACTED DR. FREDERICK C. REDLICH, DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY, YALE UNIVERSITY, IN AN EFFORT TO ASCERTAIN IF BENTLEY HAD RECEIVED TREATMENT THERE. REDLICH WAS NON COMMITTAL AND STATED ALL INFO WAS CONFIDENTIAL. EX AGENT CULLINAN INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER THIS OFFICE HAD ANY KNOWLEDGE OF SUCH TREATMENT BEING AFFORDED BENTLEY AND NO INFO WAS GIVEN TO HIM IN THIS CONNECTION. THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE THIS OFFICE IF ANY ACTION IS TO BE TAKEN.

GLEASON

ORIGINAL-DIRECTOR



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD *DL*  
 FROM : H. B. FLETCHER *12987*  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 12-20-48

*121-144*

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

*ms*

At 9:25 a.m. today, I phoned SAC Gleason, New Haven, with reference to New Haven teletype of December 16, 1948, and instructed that he determine whether Bentley had ever been associated with the Institute of Human Relations at Yale University.

H. B. Fisher, [REDACTED] is associated with the Institute of Human Relations and is in an excellent position to secure the information desired by the Bureau on a confidential basis. Mr. Gleason stated that Mr. Fisher had been ill but he would contact him to see if he could give any information pertaining to this matter.

HEF:cmw

*1. R. 8*

RECORDED - 10

EX-138

19 DEC 30 1948

50 JAN 7 1949

*134-435-7*  
*65-5-6160-2714*  
*7660*

DEPT. OF INVESTIGATION  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 23 1948

TELETYPE

FBI NEW HAVEN

12-23-48

6-55 PM

DIRECTOR

U R G E N T

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, INFORMATION CONCERNING. ATTENTION INSPECTOR  
H. B. FLETCHER. MR. H. B. FISHER, LIAISON OFFICER, YALE UNIVERSITY  
ADVISED TODAY THAT INQUIRY AT INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS, YALE,  
REFLECTS THAT SAID INSTITUTION HAS NO RECORD OF BENTLEY AS HAVING  
BEEN OR BEING PRESENTLY ADMITTED TO UOQUOTE IN- PATIENT UNQUOTE  
CLINIC. NO FURTHER ACTION BEING TAKEN THIS MATTER. SUGGESTED THAT  
BUREAU MAY DESIRE NEW HAVEN OFFICE DISCREETLY ASCERTAIN AT INSTITUTE  
OF LIVING, HARTFORD IF BENTLEY WAS EVER PATIENT THERE. NO ACTION ON  
THIS SUGGESTION PENDING BUREAU SUGGESTIONS. RUC.

GLEASON

END.

ACK PLS

50 JAN 1 1949 WASH DC ND

RECORDED - 10

EX-138

19 DEC 30 1948

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

RMP

134-435-8  
4-65-3  
100-3640-244

File 3  
orig

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 22 1949

TELETYPE

WASH FROM NEW YORK 68 26 10-38 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Gurnea	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Pennington	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*Kitcher*  
*mf*

GREGORY, ESP R. ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED SA J. M. KELLY THIS EVENING THAT SENATOR HOMER FERGUSON HAS ATTEMPTED SEVERAL TIMES THIS WEEK, TO REACH HER TELEPHONICALLY BUT THAT SHE HAS REFUSED TO TAKE THE CALLS. FURTHER, TODAY FERGUSON INFORMED HER ATTORNEY IN NYC, WHO WAS HANDLING THE REMINGTON LIBEL ACTION FOR HER, THAT UNLESS SHE APPEARS BEFORE LOYALTY REVIEW BOARD ON JAN. TWENTY EIGHTH NEXT, RE HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT LOYALTY REVIEW BOARD WILL PERMIT REMINGTON TO REMAIN IN US GOVT. EMPLOYMENT. FERGUSON ALSO INFORMED ATTORNEY THAT BENTLEYS REFUSAL TO APPEAR WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY REACT MOST UNFAVORABLY AGAINST HER IN CONNECTION WITH THE LIBEL SUIT AND WOULD REFLECT SERIOUSLY UPON CREDIBILITY OF ALL HER TESTIMONY IN OTHER MATTERS. SHE REQUESTED AGENT TO ADVISE WHAT PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW AND WAS, OF COURSE, INFORMED IT WAS ENTIRELY HER DECISION TO MAKE.

RECORDED - 133  
INDEXED 133

154-433-9  
66-63-10112  
65-51102-3723

SCHEIDT 51 11 06 AM '49

31 FEB 1 1949

HOLD PLS

61 FEB 2 1949

*CC Mr. Nathan*

*5-219*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, Birmingham  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: March 18, 1949

*Gregory Chase**DRJ*

I am enclosing herewith an article taken from the Huntsville, Alabama, Times, issue of March 11, 1949, concerning an appearance of Elizabeth Bentley before the American Legion at Huntsville.

Special Agent GLENN H. HEARN advises that this newspaper article, according to several prominent citizens in Huntsville, who attended the talk, reflects a true summary of her talk. Mr. WALTER EIGENBROD, an attorney at Huntsville, who is a close friend of Agent Hearn and is a well regarded attorney there, informed Agent Hearn that Miss Bentley made a statement that she was sponsored by the American Legion Headquarters and endorsed by the FBI, this statement allegedly being made by her at the beginning of her talk.

Agent Hearn discreetly contacted Mr. JAMES R. RECORD, Adjutant, American Legion Post No. 37, Huntsville; Mr. JEAN A. BATTLE, Moderator, a brother of Representative Laurie Battle of Alabama; BOB AXELSON, member of American Legion Post No. 37 and reporter for the Huntsville Times; and ROY BLAIR, Tax Assessor of Madison County; and all of these individuals advised him that Miss Bentley made no such statement regarding an endorsement by the FBI, but that she was most complimentary of the Bureau.

Mr. EIGENBROD was informed by Agent Hearn that we did not endorse such programs; however, Mr. Eigenbrod stated at that time that it was his desire to write a letter to Mr. Hoover to inform Mr. Hoover of Miss Bentley's actions.

The above information is being furnished to you in the event Mr. Eigenbrod should address a communication to the Bureau.

GDK:rlg  
 Enc. (1)

RECORDED - 123

EX-10

31 MAR 30 1949

51 APR 15 1949

RECEIVED

5-288

THE HUNTSVILLE TIMES  
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA  
MARCH 11, 1949  
(Front page)

## Learn About Reds Ex-Spy Declares

Religious, Democratic  
Campaign Is Stressed  
By Elizabeth Bentley

The American people must learn what communism is basically and how its program is presented, Miss Elizabeth Bentley, self-confessed Red spy, told county residents in a talk sponsored by the American Legion at the Circuit courtroom last night.

She urged a positive campaign based on building up beliefs in religion and stressing the aspects of democracy as counter-measures to Communist propaganda.

Deriding the notion that most Communists are seedy-looking wild-eyed radicals who carry bombs tucked in each pocket, Miss Bentley said such a pattern is not followed in the U. S. today.

"Communists here are an even more deadly type. They are men and women of the highest integrity who are born and reared here. They receive no money and are not adventurers."

She said that her motivation for entering the party was based on a hatred of fascism as practiced in Italy where she lived for a year under Mussolini. Most people who first enter the movement are idealistic and think they are working for a world movement to benefit humanity, she said.

The Vassar and Columbia university graduate pointed out that the U. S. Communist party is the biggest agency recruiting spies and courier agents. She entered the movement in the Fall of 1934 after meeting a Communist who agreed with her anti-Fascist views.

Miss Bentley stated she joined the Communist front organization using the name of her ancestor who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. According to her, she became molded into the Communistic pattern of thought by excessive demands with party functions and required reading of Red papers and magazines.

"I had no time to know anyone outside the party and the discipline gradually tightened. In 1938 I went underground, used a single contact and the secrecy was intensified."

Miss Bentley said she was re-

Turn To Page Three

## Learn About

Continued From Page One  
quired to submit a complete dossier on her family and friends which was thoroughly checked by Russian enemy agents. In addition, she received expert training on the various methods of sabotage, removing secret documents and avoiding detection.

The self-confessed spy said that she aided Earl Browder, former U. S. Communist party head, and others in setting up elaborate spy rings in Washington offices including the Pentagon and Office of Strategic Services.

Infiltration was possible into very high level and super-secret government agency with the exception of the Federal Bureau of

Investigation, she stated. Acting as secret courier, Miss Bentley said that she forwarded all information to places where it could be copied and taught other Red workers on how to obtain it.

Her awakening came in August, 1945, she said, after she learned that Browder received orders direct from Moscow and secret police told her she was one of the Russian agents.

"The impact of what I was doing struck home after they attempted to award me the Order of the Red Star, which is one of the highest decorations offered by the Soviet government."

Accordingly in August, 1945 after a two-week vacation, she went to the FBI and revealed the information she knew. She worked as a counter-agent for two years. In 1948 she was summoned to Washington to appear before two Congressional committees as a witness in the Red spy case hearings.

Miss Bentley was introduced by James A. Lane, national vice-commander of the American Legion. Gene Battle, committee chairman, acted as moderator. A short talk was given by Roy L. Stone, chairman of the Board of County Com-

ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

missioners and Frederic H. Heidelberg, Post 37 chaplain, gave the invocation.

An open forum followed the Red spy's talk and a number of questions were asked by the audience on some of the various phases of communism.

134-435-10  
67-6358-12  
ENCLOSURE

MAY 3 - 1948

TELETYPE

WASH. FROM NEW YORK 11 3 4-48

DIRECTOR URGENT

GREGORY. ESP. R. ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY HAS DIRECTED LETTER TO THIS OFFICE ADVISING THAT IN CONNECTION WITH LIBEL SUIT BROUGHT AGAINST HER BY WILLIAM REMINGTON, A PRE-TRIAL EXAMINATION OF HER IS TO BE HELD VERY SHORTLY. FURTHER, THAT SHE DESIRES TO LOOK OVER THE SIGNED STATEMENT SHE FURNISHED TO AGENTS SPENCER AND KELLY ON NOV. THIRTY NINETEEN FORTYFIVE IN ORDER TO DETERMINE EXACTLY WHAT INFO SHE GAVE THEREIN CONCERNING REMINGTON. PLEASE ADVISE EXPEDITIOUSLY HOW BENTLEY-S REQUEST SHOULD BE HANDLED. IT IS POINTED OUT SHE CONTINUES TO BE VERY FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE AND IS CONTACTED FREQUENTLY ON LOYALTY AND OTHER SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS.

SCHMIDT

END ACK PLS

NYC R 1 WA

53 MAY 11 1948

RECORDED 1

MAY 10 1948

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease

Stigler

W. L. Sullivan

F. L. Sullivan

134-435-11

61-6259-11

65-5442

MAY 10 1948

I believe we should let her see it.

Mr. F. L. Sullivan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 11 1949

TELETYPE

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Egan

Mr. Gurnea

Mr. Harbo

Mr. Mohr

Mr. Pennington

Mr. Quinn

Mr. Nease

Mr. Gandy

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 27 11 7-33P

DIRECTOR URGENT

GREGORY, ESP-R. ELIZABETH T. SEXTLEY ADVISES THAT SHE HAS BEEN  
SUBPOENAED TO APPEAR WASHINGTON MAY THIRTEEN NEXT TO TESTIFY BEFORE  
A SUB-COMMITTEE OF SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE ON PROPOSED PENDING  
LEGISLATION TO CURB IMMIGRATION AND THEREFORE TIGHTEN UP INTERNAL  
SECURITY OF UNITED STATES.

SCHEIDT

RECORDED - 2

HOLD PLS

Advise Lind.  
F.A.J.

cc: Mr. F.L. Jones  
F. MAY 16 1949

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General  
Attention: Mr. Peyton Ford May 12, 1949  
The Assistant to the Attorney General

Director, FBI

THE GREGORY CASE

134-435-12 86  
65-56102-3757

MS SE  
RECORDED

You will recall that Elizabeth Terrill Bentley was the informant of this Bureau in the Gregory Case. You will further recall that Miss Bentley testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities during the summer of 1948.

I have been reliably informed that Miss Bentley has been subpoenaed to appear in Washington, D. C. on May 13, 1949, to testify before a sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee on proposed or pending legislation to curb immigration.

The above is being made available to you for your information.

DECLASSIFIED BY 5886

ON 2/23/78

FLJ:ELW

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF Enclosure  
DATE 2/24/78 RUC/STW

SENT FROM D. O.  
TIME 3:55 PM  
DATE 5-17-49  
BY WDS

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

MAN 12 5:25 PM '49  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MA IS 2:35 PM '49  
MAY 13 1949  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

62 JUN 2 1949

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: June 21, 1949

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

4-1

Please be advised that on May 16, 1949, ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY called at the New York Office and, in accordance with prior Bureau authorization, she was permitted to look over that portion of her signed statement dated November 30, 1945, which concerns WILLIAM W. REMINGTON.

She was accompanied by Attorney JOSEPH A. EGAN, who is associated with the law office of GODFREY P. SCHMIDT, 51 Chambers Street, New York City, who is presently acting as MISS BENTLEY'S attorney in the libel action brought against her by REMINGTON.

E.I.R-4

134-485-13

RECORDED - 63

INDEXED - 63

EX-127

JMK:EMD  
65-14603

65 JUL 11 1949

gib

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
New York, N. Y.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

August 17, 1949

4-1

Director, FBI

Re: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Dear Sir:

Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY, the informant in instant case, telephonically contacted the New York Office on August 16, 1949. She advised that some time between September 8 and 12, 1949, she will proceed to Chicago to take up a teaching post at Mundelein College in that city. Miss BENTLEY plans on her arrival in Chicago to reside at the home of Mrs. LANNERS, 1533 Highland Avenue, Chicago 40, Illinois, telephone Sheldrake 3-7537.

Miss BENTLEY was given the address and telephone number of the Chicago Office. In the event it becomes necessary for the Chicago Office to interview Miss BENTLEY after her arrival there, it is suggested that she first be contacted at her home rather than at the college. After Miss BENTLEY gets settled it may be possible that she will be in a position where an interview can be had with her at the college if the urgency of the matter requires it.

Very truly yours,

*Edward Scheidt*

EDWARD SCHEIDT,  
SAC

DECLASSIFIED BY 5886

ON 2/23/78

TGS:RAA  
65-14603

cc - Chicago

RECORDED - 100

cc - Washington Field

INDEXED - 100

134-435-14

AUG 18 1949

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF

DATE 2/24/78 M/ERY

62-13231949

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI      ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~      DATE: February 21, 1950

FROM : SAC, Chicago

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
FORMER CONFIDENTIAL NATIONAL  
DEFENSE INFORMANT "GREGORY"

Miss ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, Instructor in Political Science at Mundelein College, 1020 West Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois, has advised that she contemplates returning permanently to New York City, New York. She has submitted her resignation to Mundelein College and expects to be released from her employment with the college in time to arrive in New York City not later than March 1, 1950. Miss BENTLEY will contact the New York Office upon her arrival there.

The following temporary address will be used by Miss BENTLEY in New York City: ~~3 LARSON TURNILL, 82 MacDougall, New York City~~, New York, telephone number Spring 7-1363. Miss TURNILL is a sister of Miss BENTLEY's mother but spells her name differently than the rest of the family.

It is suggested that the New York Office defer any new leads for interview of Miss BENTLEY until she arrives in New York City. Leads already set out will be handled by the Chicago Office up to the time of her departure.

WRP:nrc  
66-2554  
cc: New York

DECLASSIFIED BY 5886

ON 2/23/78

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF dielass  
DATE 2/24/78 WV/2

56 MAR 17 1950

RECORDED - 27

INDEXED - 27

EX-103

MAR 9 1950

12

S-P.G.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 28 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

28

4-15P

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 1  
DIRECTOR URGENT

GREGORY, ESP R. ELIZABETH BENTLEY TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS OFFICE THAT SHE HAD BEEN IN COMMUNICATION WITH HER ATTORNEY, WHO HAD INFORMED HER THAT THE LIBEL SUIT INSTIGATED AGAINST HER BY WILLIAM REMINGTON HAD BEEN SETTLED OUT OF COURT. SHE INDICATED THAT COUDERT BROS. AND ATTORNEYS ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY AND GENERAL MOODS HAD SETTLED THIS CASE WITH REMINGTONS ATTORNEY. BENTLEY STATED THAT IN DECEMBER LAST SOME NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEEN MADE IN AN EFFORT TO SETTLE THIS SUIT FOR ABOUT FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS. ALTHOUGH HER ATTORNEY DID NOT INFORM HER OF THE EXACT AMOUNT OF THE SETTLEMENT MADE BETWEEN COUDERT BROS. AND REMINGTONS ATTORNEY, SHE WAS OF THE OPINION THAT THE AMOUNT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE SAME AS THAT WHICH WAS SETTLED UPON IN DECEMBER.

SCHEIDT

RECORDED - 20

MAR 3 1950

EX-115

ASB

cc Hennrich

58 MAR 7 1950

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR  
 FROM : D. M. Ladd  
 SUBJECT :

DATE: February 28, 1950

Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Mr. Glavin  
 Mr. Ladd  
 Mr. Nichols  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Tracy  
 Mr. Egan  
 Mr. Gurnea  
 Mr. Harbo  
 Mr. Mohr  
 Mr. Pennington  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm  
 Tele. Room  
 Mr. Nease  
 Miss Gandy

ASAC Whalen of the New York Office advised this afternoon that Miss Elizabeth Bentley had just informed the New York Office that her attorney had advised her that the libel suit filed against her by Walter Remington was being settled out of court by NBC for five thousand dollars.

DML:dad

RECORDED 124  
 -SE 8

134 435-17

53 MAR 3 0 1950

ASB w

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New York  
 SUBJECT: GREGORY  
 ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: April 7, 1950

B5-1  
 ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY advised this office today that she plans to leave New York City April 9, 1950 for Biloxi, Mississippi via Eastern Airlines flight 503.

While in Biloxi she can be reached c/o Mrs. MARK WOODS, 111 Benachi Avenue. The purpose of this trip is to visit some people Miss BENTLEY met while she was on a speaking engagement in Biloxi and plans to remain there from two weeks to a month after which she plans to return to New York City.

This information is being brought to the attention of the Bureau and the New Orleans Office in order that Miss BENTLEY'S whereabouts will be known in the event it becomes necessary to interview her during her absence from New York City.

cc: New Orleans

SE p  
 RECORDED - 40  
 INDEXED - 40134-435-18  
~~65-5100-2358~~  
 APR 10 1950  
 3

EX-94

FIVE  
 ASDTGS:APK  
 65-14603

58 APR 14 1950

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: April 10, 1950

Reference is made to information supplied to the Bureau and the New Orleans Office to the effect that ELIZABETH BENTLEY indicated she would leave New York City, on April 9th, enroute to Biloxi, Mississippi for a two week to one month stay. Miss BENTLEY advised today that she has temporarily cancelled her plans to go to Biloxi but indicated that in the event she does decide to leave, she will inform this office.

cc New Orleans

TGS:KRB  
65-14603

RECORDED - 86

~~INDEXED - 86~~

EX-35

APR 11 1950

134-495-19

APR 11 1950

RECEIVED

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New York  
 SUBJECT: GREGORY  
 ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: May 3, 1950

On May 1, 1950, ELIZABETH BENTLEY advised this office that apparently Mundelein College had released a story to the Chicago papers indicating that she had left the college and apparently was taking up residence in Washington, D. C., or intended to appear as a witness in Washington, D. C. She related that she had not seen a copy of the news release but was informed of this by a reporter for the New York "Daily News," who indicated he received the information from a UP release. She related that she told this reporter that she left the college because the climate did not agree with her; that she had no intention whatsoever of residing in Washington; and so far had not appeared as a witness in any litigation in Washington, D. C.

MISS BENTLEY also stated that when she left Mundelein, she gave her forwarding address as that of her aunt, MARIAN TURRILL, 82 MacDougal Street, New York City. She also related that on May 1st a reporter for the Chicago "Sun-Times" had inquired of her aunt, in New York City, the reason for MISS BENTLEY'S leaving the college and whether or not she was living in Washington, D. C. MISS BENTLEY advised that her aunt did not give this reporter any information.

MISS BENTLEY informed that she has no desire whatsoever to talk to any newspaper reporters in connection with the reason for leaving Mundelein College and related that if any reporters are successful in reaching her she does not intend to give them any story in this connection.

This matter is being brought to the attention of the Bureau as a matter of information concerning the activities of MISS BENTLEY.

TGS:END  
 65-14603

124-435-20  
 61-6328-14  
 INDEXED - 15  
 RECORDED - 15  
 MAY 4 1950  
 INDEXED - 15  
 EX - 62

58 MAY 11 1950



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON  
FROM : L. B. NICHOLS  
SUBJECT:

DATE: June 13, 1950

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Paul Scott in the office of Bob Allen called to inquire whether Elizabeth Bentley was on the FBI payroll. I told him she was not.

LBN:LE

50  
3/10  
1/0

MM ✓

Robert  
Hargrave  
inc 55

7 - whom is she now working?  
54-435-21

RECORDED - 53

INDEXED - 53

5  
ASB

61  
JUN 22 1950

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: June 15, 1950

FROM : Mr. D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY *SL*

Tolson ☒  
Ladd ☐  
Clegg ☐  
Glavin ☐  
Nichols ☒  
Rosen ☐  
Tracy ☐  
Harbo ☐  
Mohr ☐  
Tele. Room ☐  
Nease ☐  
Gandy ☐

PURPOSE:

To advise that Elizabeth Bentley is presently unemployed and is writing a book.

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Paul Scott in the office of Bob Allen called Mr. Nichols on June 13, 1950, to inquire whether Elizabeth Bentley was on the FBI payroll. Mr. Allen was informed that she was not. You inquired "For whom is she now working?"

The New York office advised at 1:10 p.m. today that Bentley is presently unemployed. She is writing a book and is making plans to go to Westport, Connecticut, where she will remain for the next four months completing the manuscript.

ACTION:

None. For your information.

61-5328  
ASB:mpm

RECORDED - 53

52 JUN 21 1950

134-435-22

ASB

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT *WKS*  
 FROM : MR. C. E. HENNRICH  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: June 15, 1950

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

I talked with ASAC Whelan of New York at 1:10 P.M. today regarding Bentley and he informed me that Bentley is presently unemployed. She is writing a book and is making plans to go to Westport, Connecticut, where she will remain for the next four months completing the manuscript. *Present ASB*

## ACTION:

None. For your information.

*Off. Sec. ASB 6-15-50*  
 CEH:mer

134-435-23  
 RECORDED - 53  
*ASB*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, New York  
SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: June 23, 1950

On 6/16/50 ELIZABETH BENTLEY was interviewed in the New York Office in connection with various matters arising out of loyalty and other cases.

She related that she has a contract to do a book for Devin Adair Publications, 23 East 26th Street, New York City and at the suggesting of her publisher, is leaving the City on June 19, 1950 and plans to return to New York about October 15, 1950.

Her address during this period will be:

GEORGE and MARGARET PANCOAST  
Proud Trees  
South Compo Road  
Westport, Connecticut

The telephone number is Westport 2-3550. She related that in view of the publicity she has received she is making every effort to keep her whereabouts unknown. She suggested that she not be contacted by telephone unless some emergency arose. She was informed this request would be complied with.

An arrangement has been perfected for corresponding with Miss BENTLEY. An envelope containing any communication will be addressed to her personal attention and will be placed inside an envelope addressed to the Pancoast family.

As the Bureau knows Miss BENTLEY has been contacted periodically by New York Agents in connection with various matters that arise out of loyalty and other investigations. It has been noted since Miss BENTLEY'S return to New York the bulk of the material about which she is asked originates in this Office. In view of this and the need for her services in the WILLIAM WALTER

cc-Washington Field  
cc-New Haven

RECORDED - 59  
INDEXED - 59

TGS:LEW  
65-14603

1950

134-435-24

134-435-24

ASB

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

<sup>to</sup>  
REMINGAN perjury case, it is believed that it would be more practical to have these matters handled by agents of this office. Westport Conn. is about an hour and a half from New York by automobile. Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, future contacts with Miss BENTLEY will be handled by this office.

Director, FBI

June 23, 1950

SAC, New York

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

On 6/16/50 ELIZABETH BENTLEY was interviewed in the New York Office in connection with various matters arising out of loyalty and other cases.

She related that she has a contract to do a book for Devin Adair Publications, 23 East 26th Street, New York City and at the suggesting of her publisher, is leaving the City on June 19, 1950 and plans to return to New York about October 15, 1950.

Her address during this period will be:

GEORGE and MARGARET PANCOAST  
Proud Trees  
South Campo Road  
Westport, Connecticut

The telephone number is Westport 2-3550. She related that in view of the publicity she has received she is making every effort to keep her whereabouts unknown. She suggested that she not be contacted by telephone unless some emergency arose. She was informed this request would be complied with.

An arrangement has been perfected for corresponding with Miss BENTLEY. An envelope containing any communication will be addressed to her personal attention and will be placed inside an envelope addressed to the Pancoast family.

As the Bureau knows Miss BENTLEY has been contacted periodically by New York Agents in connection with various matters that arise out of loyalty and other investigations. It has been noted since Miss BENTLEY'S return to New York the bulk of the material about which she is asked originates in this Office. In view of this and the need for her services in the WILLIAM WALTER

cc-Washington Field  
cc-New Haven

TGS:LEW  
65-14603

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

REMICAN perjury case, it is believed that it would be more practical to have these matters handled by agents of this office. Westport Conn. is about an hour and a half from New York by automobile. Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau, future contacts with Miss BENTLEY will be handled by this office.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 7-31-50

FROM : SAC, NEW HAVEN

51700

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE (R)

ELIZABETH BENTLEY

For the information of the Bureau and the New York Office, there is being transmitted herewith one photostatic copy of a picture and article which appeared in the 7-23-50 issue of the Bridgeport Sunday Herald, published at Bridgeport, Conn., concerning ELIZABETH BENTLEY.

Encl.

JFS:NK

65-1247

cc: New York (encl.)

ENCL

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

RECORDED - 113

INDEXED - 113

EX-71

AUG 2 1950

8

R350

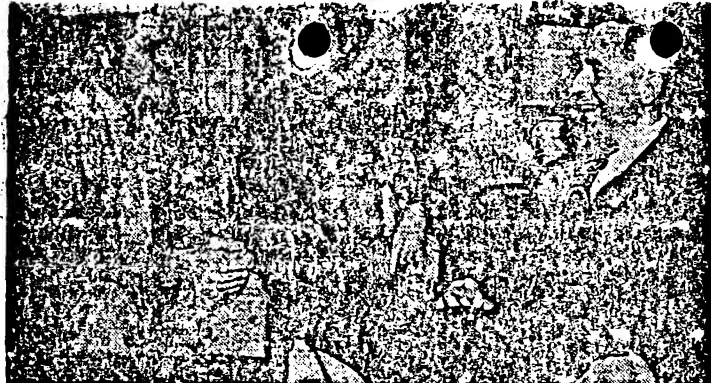
BASB

55 AUG 11 1950



Enclosure

134-435-25



ELIZABETH BENTLEY comes to town with the news that she is writing the story of her life. At left, Lt. Col. Malcolm Eckhardt of Shelton and at right, her editor, Westport's Capt. Thomas O. Sloane, Sr.

## A MODERN MATA HARI

# Liz Bentley Does Story Of Her Life with Reds

Elizabeth Bentley was in a grimly mood while she handed her cream to a Herald reporter.

Finishing dinner at the University Club with the 9316th Volunteer Reserve Training Squadron she was to speak later at the University of Bridgeport with

some inside tips on Communism which she learned while a spy for that party.

### WESTPORTER PUBLISHER

Miss Bentley, now thoroughly re-conditioned as a loyal American, is writing the story of her life.

Title and place are secret.

The publisher is Westport's Capt. Thomas O. Sloane, Sr., editor with the Levin-Adair Company which he said also published John T. Flynn's "The Road Ahead."

Miss Bentley should have a knockout story, having shocked the nation two years ago as its first confessed Mata Hari, with a Vassar degree at that.

Her daily testimony before the Un-American Activities Committee was a saga that officially ended only last March. William W. Remington, since cleared by the government's top loyalty review board, sued her for \$100,000 libel. Miss Bentley settled with him out of court.

### FAMILY IN MILFORD

Add facts unknown till now: Miss Bentley said her family's name is inscribed on rocks at Milford.

They were the Turrills who later moved to New Milford.

In the latter town she was the only child of the newspaper publisher who later sold out to the Worley family.

Oddly enough, the Worleys have married into the Turrill family, Miss Bentley related.

She has not been back to New Milford, where these two con-

ments were made during the Washington uproar:

Her aunt, Mrs. Edith Ferriss Turrill, said: "I think Elizabeth was in love with John Gold and he lured her into it."—E. H.

Date 7-27-56  
Submitted by New Haven Office

Sunday Herald X  
Post  
Bpt. Telegram  
Danbury News-Times

2. Photo stat

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*Handwritten:* Baumgardner, Stanley, [unclear]

*Handwritten:* [unclear]

FBI NEW HAVEN

9-21-50

3-27 PM

DIRECTOR AND SAC, NEW YORK DEFERRED

RE GREGORY ES DASH R, RE CONTACTS WITH ELIZABETH BENTLEY. BUREAU REQUESTED SEE NY LETTER CAPTIONED SAME THIS TEL JUNE TWENTYTHREE FIFTY, IN WHICH ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONTACTING BENTLEY BY NY OFFICE SET FORTH.

IN VIEW OF THIS, BELIEVED DESIRABLE THAT NY MAKE CONTACT WITH HER RATHER THAN NH. FURTHER, IT APPEARS BENTLEY PROCEEDING NY ABOUT OCTOBER FIRST. THUS IT IS SUGGESTED ANY LEADS TO CONTACT BENTLEY BE DIRECTED TO NY RATHER THAN NH.

RECORDED - 58

OCT 18 1950

WILLIS INDEXED - 58

12

EX-16

ACK AND HOLD PLS

3-29 PM OK FBI WA HK

52 OCT 10 1950

*Handwritten:* NA per [unclear] 5458

*Handwritten:* Done

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: October 9, 1950

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: GREGORY;  
ESPIONAGE - R

On September 28, 1950, Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY telephonically communicated with this office from her summer residence in Westport, Connecticut, and advised that she would be leaving there in a day or two to return to New York City for the winter.

On October 3, 1950, Miss BENTLEY was interviewed at her present residence, the Hotel Commodore, New York City, and she advised that she had returned to New York for permanent residence and she expected to remain at the Commodore Hotel for a few days, after which she would move to the Shelton Hotel.

cc: New Haven  
Washington Field

RECORDED - 32

OCT 10 1950

TGS:DRS  
65-14603

66 OCT 17 1950

copy; on 120

MR. BELMONT

October 10, 1950

D. M. Ladd

Mr. T. Donegan called from New York today and advised that the foreman of the former Grand Jury, Mr. Brunini, had contacted him and stated that he has been helping Elizabeth Bentley on her book; that he has, however, taken no money. He stated that Bentley did not want Brunini to tell Mr. Donegan about this help, and she claimed to have told the New York Office about it.

It is desired that this matter be checked with New York to see if they have been furnished this information and the details be submitted in a memorandum for the Director.

DML:CSH

ADDENDUM: October 16, 1950

I called ASAC Whelan of New York at 5:10 P.M. to determine whether they had received any information concerning the above. Mr. Whelan stated that Mr. Donegan called him this afternoon around 4:00 P.M., after he had talked to Mr. Ladd and stated that Mr. Brunini had told him, Donegan, today that he had been collaborating with Bentley on her book and that she had indicated to Brunini that the publisher and she were interested in seeing that he would get such fees as were due him. According to Mr. Donegan, Brunini asked him for advice as to whether he should accept any fee for work on this matter. Mr. Donegan stated that he told Brunini that under no circumstances should he do this - that this would be very important so far as defense attorneys were concerned in both the Brothman and Remington cases when Bentley testified.

Mr. Whelan advised that he is checking with the Special Agents who handle Bentley and after he has had a chance to talk to them, a detailed teletype will be submitted by the New York Office.

LLL:mer

134-435-✓  
104-4328-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
55 OCT 24 1950

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL = 12

CARBON COPY

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 16 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH FROM NEW YORK

18A

16

10-04 P

DIRECTOR

URGENT

ATTN. MR. L. L. LAUGHLIN

GREGORY, ESP-R. RE TELEPHONE CALL FROM INSPECTOR L. L. LAUGHLIN  
TO ASAC W. M. WHELAN IN THE MATTER OF SAAG T. J. DONEGAN'S CALL TO  
ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR D. M. LADD ABOUT BRUNINI'S COLLABORATION  
WITH BENTLEY ON HER NEW BOOK. SAAG DONEGAN ADVISED ASAC WHELAN  
THAT HE HAD CALLED THE BUREAU AND REPORTED THAT BRUNINI HAD ADVISED  
HIM TODAY THAT HE ~~BRUNINI~~ HAD BEEN COLLABORATING WITH MISS BENTLEY  
IN THE WRITING OF HER NEW BOOK AND THAT MISS BENTLEY AND THE PUBLISHER  
OF THE BOOK WERE RECOMMENDING THAT BRUNINI RECEIVE THE REGULAR  
PUBLISHER-S FEE TO WHICH A COLLABORATOR IS ENTITLED. BRUNINI FURTHER  
ADVISED MR. DONEGAN THAT HE ASSISTED MISS BENTLEY IN MAKING ARRANGE-  
MENTS WITH THIS PARTICULAR PUBLISHER TO PUBLISH THE BOOK. HE FURTHER  
STATED TO MR. DONEGAN THAT BENTLEY HAD ADVISED HIM SHE HAD DISCUSSED  
WITH THE FBI WHETHER OR NOT IT WAS OKAY FOR BRUNINI TO COLLABORATE  
WITH HER AND FOR HIM TO RECEIVE FEES AS A RESULT THEREOF AND THE  
FBI HAD ADVISED HER IT WAS OKAY. BRUNINI FURTHER STATED TO MR.  
DONEGAN THAT BENTLEY SAID SHE WOULD PREFER THAT HE, BRUNINI, NOT  
END OF PAGE ONE

INDEXED - 64

NOT RECORDED  
55 OCT 24 1950

*Elizabeth Bentley*

*134-435-28*  
*W. M. Whelan*  
*Bureau*  
*ASAC*

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-134-435-28

PAGE TWO

DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH SAAC T. J. DONEGAN. MR. DONEGAN ADVISED THAT BRUNINI CONTACTED HIM TODAY SEEKING LEGAL ADVISE AS TO THE PROPRIETY OF HIS RECEIVING SUCH FEES, BUT HE ASSURED DONEGAN THAT HE, BRUNINI, HAD NO CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH EITHER MISS BENTLEY OR THE PUBLISHER. SAs T. G. SPENCER AND J. J. DANAHY INTERVIEWED BENTLEY ON OCT. TWELVE LAST IN THE REGULAR COURSE OF PENDING INVESTIGATIONS ON REMINGTON AND BROTHMAN. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW, MISS BENTLEY WAS ASKED WHETHER OR NOT HER BOOK HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND SHE RELATED SHE HAD ABOUT TEN OR FIFTEEN MORE PAGES TO WRITE AND THAT SHE WOULD FURNISH THIS OFFICE WITH A COPY AS SOON AS THE PUBLISHER HAD RECEIVED THE ENTIRE STORY. AT THAT TIME SHE STATED IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO HAVE THE BOOK READ FOR GRAMMATICAL SETUP AND FOR ANY LIBELOUS STATEMENTS THAT MIGHT BE CONTAINED THEREIN AND STATED THAT, IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROOFREADING OF THE BOOK, THIS JOB WAS GOING TO BE DONE BY BRUNINI. SHE RELATED TO AGENTS THAT BRUNINI WAS A LITTLE CONCERNED ABOUT ACCEPTING THE JOB OF

END OF PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

PROOFREADING THE BOOK IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HE HAD BEEN THE FOREMAN OF THE GJ BEFORE WHICH MISS BENTLEY TESTIFIED AND WHICH GRAND JURY INDICTED REMINGTON. SHE SOUGHT AGENTS ADVISE AS TO WHETHER OR NOT BRUNINI COULD DO THIS WITH PROPRIETY AND AS USUAL WHENEVER MISS BENTLEY HAS SOUGHT ADVISE FROM AGENTS, SHE WAS GIVEN NONE. MISS BENTLEY DID NOT INDICATE THEN OR AT ANY PREVIOUS TIME THAT SHE HAD BEEN COLLABORATING WITH ANYONE IN THE WRITING OF THIS BOOK. THIS PARTICULAR FACT WAS NOT REPORTED TO THE BUREAU IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT BRUNINI IS KNOWN BY THE AGENTS WHO INTERVIEWED MISS BENTLEY TO BE AN OFFICER IN THE CATHOLIC POETRY SOCIETY AND, IT WOULD, THEREFORE, APPEAR THAT HE WAS BEING UTILIZED NOT FOR HIS KNOWLEDGE GAINED BEFORE THE GRAND JURY, BUT FOR HIS KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY IN REVIEWING BOOKS AND GAINED BY WORKING IN THE LITERARY FIELD. THE AGENTS REPORT THAT, ON THIS INTERVIEW, BENTLEY DID NOT MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT FEES TO BE RECEIVED BY BRUNINI.

SCHEIDT

HOLD

ORIGINAL--DIRECTOR



October 17, 1950

SAC, New York

Director, FBI

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

134-435-28  
Reurtel October 16, 1950, wherein you report information concerning a contact between Elizabeth T. Bentley and agents of your office on October 12, last.

Obviously information furnished by Bentley concerning her association with Brunini should have been reported to the Bureau immediately. It should have been apparent that this association between Bentley and Brunini, the Foreman of the Grand Jury before which Bentley testified and which indicted William Walter Hemington, was one which would most certainly react adversely if the information became known to the general public. Agents of the New York Office are correct in not furnishing advice to Bentley or to anyone else who requests such as was indicated in your referenced teletype.

You are requested to call this matter to the personal attention of the agents who handled Bentley and you should be particularly alert that matters such as this are promptly reported to the Bureau in the future.

WAB:eev

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

58 NOV 7 1950

ASH FROM NEW YORK

DIRECTOR URGENT

OCT 26 1955

TELETYPE

22 A

26

11-50 P

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

TT..... INSPECTOR CARL HENNRICH

E GREGORY, ESP - R. RE TEL CALL BETWEEN ASAC WHELAN AND INSPECTOR  
HENNRICH, OCT. TWENTY SIX, NINETEEN FIFTY. ELIZABETH BENTLEY,  
FOLLOWING A CONFERENCE ON OCT. TWENTY FIVE, FIFTY WITH SAAG DONEGAN  
AND USA SAYPOL IN WHICH AMONG OTHER THINGS SHE REQUESTED PERMISSION  
TO MAKE PUBLIC APPEARANCES PRIOR TO THE TRIALS OF THE BROTHMAN AND  
BROTHMAN CASES AND IN WHICH SHE WAS ADVISED BY DONEGAN AND SAYPOL  
TO CLEAR WITH THEM PRIOR TO ACCEPTING ANY SPEECHES, CONTACTED  
THE NYO AND FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFO. BENTLEY STATED THAT  
ON OCT. FIFTEEN, FIFTY SHE HAD BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MISS DORIS  
STEVENS WHO IS ALSO KNOWN AS MRS. JONATHAN MITCHELL. MISS STEVENS  
IS A PROMINENT FEMINIST CLUB WOMAN AND WRITER. BENTLEY TOLD MISS  
STEVENS ABOUT BENTLEY-S CONNECTION WITH ABRAHAM BROTHMAN. ACCORDING  
TO BENTLEY, SHE TOLD THIS STORY IN GENERAL TERMS BUT DID STATE  
THE MANNER IN WHICH SHE HAD MET BROTHMAN AND THE TYPE OF WORK BROTH-  
MAN WAS DOING ON AN ESPIONAGE LEVEL. BENTLEY STATED SHE FELT THAT  
SHE MADE A RATHER GRAVE MISTAKE IN MAKING THIS INFO AVAILABLE FOR  
THE FOLLOWING REASONS... MISS STEVENS HAS RECENTLY REPRESENTED  
REBECCA WEST, A WELL KNOWN BRITISH NOVELIST WHO IS GATHERING

END OF PAGE ONE

6 MAR 2 1953

1742  
Brents

1955-10-26

134-435-1  
25-1953

PAGE TWO

INFO ON AMERICAN ESPIONAGE CASES FOR THE INCLUSION IN A REVISED EDITION OF A RECENT BOOK PUBLISHED BY REBECCA WEST CONCERNING TRAITORS IN ENGLAND. BENTLEY EXPRESSED THE FEAR THAT MISS STEVENS MIGHT RELAY THIS INFO TO REBECCA WEST AND IT MIGHT BE INCLUDED IN REBECCA WEST-S REVISED BOOK PRIOR TO THE TRIAL OF THE BROTHMAN CASE. FOR THE INFO OF THE BUREAU, MISS STEVENS HAS BEEN MOST COOPERATIVE WITH THE NYO DURING THE INVESTIGATION OF ALGER HISS AND WILLIAM WALTER REMINGTON. RECENTLY MISS STEVENS HAS SOLICITED THE ASSISTANCE OF THIS OFFICE TO PROCURE FOR HER PRESS RELEASES ISSUED BY THE BUREAU ON THE GOLD, GREENGLASS AND RELATED ESPIONAGE CASES ARISING FROM THE FUCHS CASE. AT THAT TIME MISS STEVENS WAS ADVISED THAT SUCH RELEASES HAD BEEN MADE BY THE BUREAU AT WASHINGTON AND THAT SHE SHOULD PROPERLY DIRECT HER REQUEST FOR THIS INFO TO THE BUREAU. AS A MATTER OF COOPERATION, OCT. SEVENTEEN, FIFTY, A LETTER WAS DIRECTED TO THE BUREAU CAPTIONED " DORIS STEVENS, INFO CONCERNING, ATTN. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR L. B. NICHOLS". IN THIS LETTER THE NATURE OF MISS STEVENS REQUEST WAS OUTLINED AND THE BUREAU WAS ADVISED OF HER IDENTITY AND THE FACT THAT SHE MIGHT WRITE TO

END OF PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

THE BUREAU FOR THESE PRESS RELEASES. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALL AND UNLESS ADVISED TO THE CONTRARY BY THE BUREAU, ON OCT TWENTY SEVEN, NINETEEN FIFTY THE FACTS SET FORTH ABOVE WILL BE CALLED TO THE ATTENTION OF SAAG DONEGAN FOR HIS INFO AND WHATEVER ACTION HE MIGHT DESIRE TO TAKE IN THIS MATTER.

SCHEIDT

HOLD

ORIGINAL--DIRECTOR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 30 1950

TELETYPE

WASH FROM NEW YORK 2A 30 158 P  
DIRECTOR URGENT

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

GREGORY, ESP R. THIS MORNING [REDACTED] THE NY  
WORLD TELEGRAM AND SUN, CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED THIS OFFICE OF A  
CONVERSATION HE HAD HAD WITH FRED WOLTMAN, A WRITER FOR THIS NEWSPAPER.  
ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] WOLTMAN RECENTLY HAD A CONVERSATION WITH AN EM-  
PLOYEE OF FRANK BIELASKI, WHO OPERATES A PRIVATE DETECTIVE AGENCY IN  
NYC. DURING THIS CONVERSATION THIS EMPLOYEE CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED  
WOLTMAN THAT BIELASKIS AGENCY WAS INVESTIGATING ELIZABETH BENTLEY.  
THAT BIELASKI WAS NOT TOO MUCH IN FAVOR OF ACCEPTING THIS COMMITMENT  
BUT HAD DONE SO AT THE REQUEST OF GENERAL WILLIAM DONOVAN. SUBSE-  
QUENTLY WOLTMAN [REDACTED] HAD A CONVERSATION WHEREIN THEY DISCUSSED  
THE POSSIBILITY OR DESIRABILITY OF PUBLISHING THIS STORY. [REDACTED]  
STATED THAT HE WAS IN FAVOR OF IT BUT WOLTMAN WAS RATHER RELUCTANT  
TO DO SO BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT HE HAD RECD HIS INFO IN CONFIDENCE.  
[REDACTED] DID NOT KNOW AT THE TIME OF HIS CALL TO HIS OFFICE WHETHER WOL-  
TMAN HAD MADE ANY FURTHER CONSIDERATION IN REGARD TO THE PUBLISHING OF  
A STORY RELATIVE TO THIS MATTER. RECORDED - 10

END

NY R 2A WA LL

(b)(7)(D) SCHEIDT

INDEXED - 10

OCT 16 1950

cc: Mr. Belmont

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD *ALB*  
 FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT *2*  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: October 30, 1950

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ASAC Whelan of New York advised on October 30 that Bentley has been in touch with the New York Office and with the U. S. Attorney's Office and has definitely stated that she is under surveillance. She expects in addition that her telephone is probably tapped. She indicated that newspapermen Woltman and Frank have indicated to her that they know she is under surveillance.

Mr. Whelan stated that Bentley is residing at the Shelton Hotel. The NY Office has no satisfactory contacts at that Hotel. He suggested the possibility of Miss Bentley moving to the Prince George's Hotel where the Bureau does have good contacts. He said, however, that such a move might entail the necessity of the Bureau supplementing the daily rate paid by Bentley to the extent of perhaps \$1.50 to \$2.00 a day.

Mr. Whelan was advised that it was considered inadvisable for the Bureau to be involved in paying for Bentley's hotel room at this time. He was told that there were no objections, in view of Bentley's indicating that she was concerned about the surveillance, for the NY Office to assist her in locating another hotel room but that no supplemental payments in connection with the room should be made by the Bureau.

## ACTION:

None. For your information.

CEH:mer

RECORDED - 90

EX - 53

OCT 31 1950

24

134-435-30  
 161-637-110  
 OCT 31 1950  
 24

NOV 1 1950

OK

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 12 1950

TELETYPE

WASH. FROM NEW YORK 13 A 2  
 DIRECTOR URGENT

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

GREGORY, ESP. - R. AT THE REQUEST OF USA IRVING SAYPOL, ARRANGEMENTS  
 WERE MADE TO HAVE MISS BENTLEY MOVE FROM HER ADDRESS AT THE SHELTON  
 HOTEL TO THE PRINCE GEORGE HOTEL. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON OCT.  
 THIRTY FIRST, FIFTY. ON NOV. FIRST, FIFTY, MISS BENTLEY COMMUNICATED  
 WITH THIS OFFICE AND ADVISED THAT THE PREVIOUS EVENING SHE HAD HAD  
 A CONVERSATION WITH ROBERT MORRIS. MORRIS INDICATED TO HER THAT HE  
 HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FRANK BIELASKI AGENCY  
 WAS NOT SURVEILLING HER OR CONDUCTING ANY INVESTIGATION IN CONNECTION  
 WITH HER ACTIVITIES IN NY. MORRIS RELATED THAT HIS INFORMANT HAD  
 ADVISED THAT REMINGTON "DID NOT HAVE THAT KIND OF MONEY." BENTLEY  
 THEN RELATED THAT SHE AND MORRIS CAME TO THE DEFINITE CONCLUSION  
 THAT SINCE SHE WAS BEING FOLLOWED AND IT WAS NOT BIELASKI, IT MIGHT  
 VERY WELL BE THE COMMUNISTS. SHE STATED SHE BECAME QUITE CONCERNED  
 OVER THIS AND THAT MORRIS HAD SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING  
 THE SERVICES OF "A COUPLE OF NEW YORK POLICE OFFICERS WHO ARE ON  
 THE RED SQUAD." MISS BENTLEY WAS ADVISED THAT IT MIGHT BE ADVIS-  
 ABLE PRIOR TO DOING ANYTHING OF THIS NATURE TO CONFER WITH USA  
 SAYPOL. BENTLEY HAD A PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT WITH MR. SAYPOL AND

NOV 20 1950  
 END OF PAGE ONE RECEIVED

who is Robert  
 Morris?

124-435-32

NOV 20 1950

ASB  
 B-458

PAGE TWO

BROTHMAN TRIAL. BOTH MR. SAYPOL AND MR. DONEGAN WERE ADVISED OF MISS BENTLEY'S PHONE CALL RELATED ABOVE. MISS BENTLEY WAS QUESTIONED OVER A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD ON THE AFTERNOON OF NOV. FIRST BY MESSRS. DONEGAN, SAYPOL AND COHEN. <sup>Connected with the Brothman case</sup> HOWEVER, THE AGENTS WHO ARE HANDLING THE BROTHMAN CASE ADVISED THAT BENTLEY MADE NO MENTION OF THE ABOVE INCIDENT WITH MORRIS, NOR DID SAYPOL OR DONEGAN HAVE ANY COMMENT IN THIS CONNECTION. IN VIEW OF THIS NO FURTHER ACTION IS BEING CONTEMPLATED UACB.

SCHEIDT

HOLD

CC: Mr. Tolson

INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

NOV 13 2 15 PM '44

RECORDED



THE DIRECTOR

November 3, 1950

MR. LADD

GREGORY

ESPIONAGE - R  
(Robert Morris)

Purpose:

To advise that Robert Morris is a New York Attorney who during Spring of 1950 was Assistant Counsel of the Subcommittee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate (Tydings Committee). Background information set out.

Background:

Reference is made to a teletype from New York dated November 2, 1950, entitled, "Gregory; Espionage - R" which states that Elizabeth Bentley had been in conversation with Robert Morris concerning who might be investigating or following Bentley. You inquired, "who is Robert Morris?"

Mr. Tom Donegan advised Mr. Hennrich today that Morris is identical with Robert Morris who was Assistant Counsel of the Subcommittee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate, (Tydings Committee) during the Spring of 1950; that when he appeared before the Federal Grand Jury in New York City in the Amerasia case this year he furnished the following background information concerning himself.

He was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1939 and thereafter practiced one year with a New York law firm. He then became Assistant Counsel to the New York State Legislative Committee investigating subversive activities in the New York schools. (The Rapp-Coudert Committee.) Thereafter he served four and a half years in the Navy and was assigned to ONI, New York City on the so-called "Commie Desk." Then he was assigned to assist Admiral Nimitz as psychological warfare officer. After the war he practiced law in New York City for two years at

FLJ:jcs

134-435-✓  
NOT RECORDED

FEB 25 1953

56 MAR 2 1953

40 Exchange Place. On April 11, 1950 he was retained by the Tydings Subcommittee as Assistant Counsel. Mr. Donegan does not know Morris' present employment.

The New York Office has advised that Morris is a friend of Bentley's and has counseled her in that capacity.

Action:

None. This is for your information.

DEVIN-ADAIR COMPANY  
PUBLISHERS  
40 EAST 42 STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.  
Telephone BR 6-7113

*Handwritten signature*  
*Handwritten initials*

29639

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*File Book*

*Handwritten initials*

ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S BOOK  
TO BE PUBLISHED IN MARCH

Elizabeth Bentley, New England college girl who became a communist, whose revelations regarding Communist espionage at top levels have been of extreme help to the F.B.I. and others, will tell her story in a book to be called OUT OF BONDAGE.

Devin-Adair will publish OUT OF BONDAGE in March, 1951.

*1345*

\* \* \* \* \*

134-435-33

RECORDED - 78

INDEXED - 78

DEC 15 1950

*Handwritten signature*

EX-116

275

1057

THE DEVIN-ADAIR COMPANY  
PUBLISHERS  
219 SOUTH 4TH STREET  
NEW YORK 10 N.Y.  
Tel. LEdition 2-6713

29610

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S BOOK  
TO BE PUBLISHED IN MARCH

Elizabeth Bentley, New England college girl who became a communist, whose revelations regarding Communist espionage at top levels have been of extreme help to the F.B.I. and others, will tell her story in a book to be called OUT OF BONDAGE.

Devin-Adair will publish OUT OF BONDAGE in March, 1951.

\* \* \* \* \*

RECORDED - 90

134-435-34  
JAN 2 1951

59 JAN 8 1951

Director, FBI

January 4, 1951

SAC, New York

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

RE: PAYMENT TO ELIZABETH BENTLEY OF \$2000.00  
BY ANATOLI GROMOV

Rebulet 12/14/50 regarding the above-mentioned caption.

In May of 1945, BENTLEY saw, for the last time, her contact JACK (JOSEPH KATZ). Just prior to this last meeting JACK introduced her to the contact she had then known only as AL but who subsequently was definitely identified as ANATOLI GROMOV, the First Secretary of the Russian Embassy in Washington.

In subsequent meetings with GROMOV, the latter made overtures of buying BENTLEY a fur coat, suggested that she quit her job and take a vacation, offered to supply her with an air conditioning unit when she complained of the summer heat, and on almost all of the occasions of her meetings with him, after the initial one, mentioned his willingness to set her up in a small business to be financed by him which would be located outside of New York City and perhaps in Philadelphia or Washington. MISS BENTLEY'S recollection was that they had some conversations about setting up a small hat or dress shop for this purpose.

In October of 1945, BENTLEY saw GROMOV by prearrangement and at this time he handed her \$2000.00 in \$20.00 bills, and at the time he gave her the money he stated there were "no strings attached." It was BENTLEY'S impression at this time that this payment to her was for her past activities in connection with the Russians, as well as an attempt on the part of GROMOV to secure her good will.

On November 16, 1945, while MISS BENTLEY was being interrogated by SAS THOMAS G. SPENCER and JOSEPH M. KELLY in the Prince George Hotel in New York City, she mentioned the facts as related above, as well, of course, as other information during this rather extended interview. At the conclusion of this interview on November 16th, arrangements were made for the continuance of the interview on the morning of November 17, 1945, at the same hotel. Immediately upon MISS BENTLEY'S entering the room on this occasion, even before she took off her coat and hat,

TGS:KMD  
65-14603

For disposition of \$2,000.00, see 65-56402-3962,  
mbn/Cons  
2/25/53

134-435-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
IN

FEB 25 1953

Letter to Director, FBI  
NY 65-14603

she opened up her purse, took out an envelope, threw it on the bed and stated, "Here's some Moscow gold." MISS BENTLEY was informed that the FBI would take possession of this money and although no offer was made to give her a receipt for same she did not in fact request one. Thereafter, the money was taken to the New York Office and subsequently placed in the safe-deposit box that is maintained by the New York Office at the Park Row Branch of the Manufacturers Trust Company. The money still remains in this safe-deposit box.

In so far as the final disposition of this money is concerned, it appears that only two possibilities exist: (1) that it be considered as espionage money as a result of MISS BENTLEY'S activities with the Russians, and in that event it in all probability would have to be turned over to the Treasury Department; and (2) the other solution would, of course, be to have this money returned to MISS BENTLEY. In view of the fact that MISS BENTLEY was recently a witness in the ABRAHAM BROTHMAN case and is scheduled to appear as a Government witness in the current trial of WILLIAM WALTER REMINGTON, this matter was discussed on a confidential basis with Special Assistant to the Attorney General T. J. DONEGAN. MR. DONEGAN stated that in his opinion this matter should remain "in status quo" until such time as the REMINGTON case has finally been resolved. He stated that any attempt at this time to establish the ownership of these funds might lead to some embarrassment. He stated that he was of the definite opinion that some decision would have to be made in so far as these funds are concerned but indicated that it might be well not to consider this until the final disposition of the REMINGTON case has been effected.

The Bureau's attention is called to the fact that since 1945 the services of MISS BENTLEY as a witness and as a highly placed informant have been utilized by this office and also by the Chicago Office during the six-month period she resided in that City. During this time she has not been paid for her

16781

Letter to Director, FBI  
NY 65-14603

services, with the exception of a Christmas gift that was given to her this year and the reimbursement to her in the amount of \$25.00 during the preparation of the REMINGTON and BROTHMAN cases when MISS BENTLEY was in Westport, Connecticut, writing her book. During the time she has been interviewed by Agents of this office she has on two or three occasions inquired into what disposition would eventually be made of this money. She was informed on all these occasions that this was a matter that would have to be decided sometime in the future and, of course, no definite commitment was made to her regarding these funds.

MISS BENTLEY'S financial condition at the present time is satisfactory in that all of her living expenses are being paid for by her publisher through January of 1951. Thereafter, her financial condition will depend on the way in which her book is received by the public. If it is not well received, she, of course, will have to obtain some employment to maintain herself as she has no savings or independent income. It, of course, would be a nice gesture if this money could be returned to her; however, this cannot be recommended by this office in view of the circumstances surrounding the manner in which she obtained this money, particularly the fact that it was MISS BENTLEY'S impression that this was payment to her for espionage activities she had participated in on behalf of the Soviets.

In view of MR. DONEGAN'S comments, it is not believed that any decision should be reached as to the disposition of these funds until the final disposition of the REMINGTON case, and at that time the comments of MR. DONEGAN, as well as of this office, will be forwarded to the Bureau.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓  
 FROM : L. B. Nichols  
 SUBJECT:

DATE: April 25, 1951

For record purposes, Miss Worlick of the Speakers and Artists Bureau of NBC phoned advising that she was scheduling lectures for Elizabeth Bentley and wondered if we could give her assurance that Miss Bentley was a hundred per cent all right as she did not want to have any complaints that Bentley might actually still be a spy.

Miss Worlick was advised that no statement of endorsement could be given by us to her although she could readily appreciate the fact that Miss Bentley had spread on the public record her present beliefs. For example, not only has she appeared as a Government witness before Grand Juries and in Federal Court, but she has written articles for McCall's Magazine and recently published her own book, all of which were matters of public record from which she could form her opinion. Miss Worlick was advised it was not the Bureau's policy to issue endorsements on any person for commercial purposes. She stated she understood this and that obviously the Federal Government would not utilize Miss Bentley unless it had some reliance in what she had to say. No further action is required.

JMN:CMC

cc: Mr. Belmont

7-11-15 56402  
5  
ASB  
134-435-39  
RECORDED - 124  
MAY 1 1951  
EX-24  
34



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson *V*

DATE: January 24, 1951

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

*sl*  
Tolson ☒  
Ladd ☒  
Clegg ☒  
Glavin ☒  
Nichols ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Tracy ☒  
Harbo ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Nease ☒  
Gandy ☒

Christine Sadler, who was formerly with the Washington Post and who is now the Washington representative of McCall's Magazine, came in to see me on January 23, 1951.

She pointed out that McCall's Magazine is seriously considering purchasing the serial rights to Elizabeth Bentley's new book; that her editor has read the manuscript and told her it is one of the most fascinating documents he has ever read and will be a sure-fire success.

As the word got around in the publishing trade that McCall's had the first magazine rights to the book word was given to the editor that he should go slow because Elizabeth Bentley was on the verge of being discredited. She talked to Phil Graham of the Washington Post about this and Phil suggested that she see me. I told her that, of course, we could not give her any advice as to whether they should or should not publish the Bentley story. I asked her, however, if it would not be logical to assume that if Miss Bentley was vulnerable and if she could be discredited, would this not have occurred long before now. She had not thought of this. I further suggested that she might check into the cross-examination of Miss Bentley in the Remington case because it would appear that if anyone was able to shake her certainly an attempt would be made in this case.

I further told her that the Bureau had a great deal of respect for the veracity of Elizabeth Bentley and that over a period of years on those matters which were susceptible to verification they had been verified; that so far as the Bureau was concerned Miss Bentley had been very forthright in all of her statements to us.

LBN:CMC

154-435-35

EX-121 *V*

RECORDED - 67

JAN 25 1951

INDEXED - 67

*ASB*

*5*  
*ASB*

313  
FEB 12 1951

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, New York.  
SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: February 23, 1951

On February 20, 1950, ELIZABETH BENTLEY was interviewed in connection with an attempt to have her identify the various photographs in connection with current cases in this office. At that time she advised that she was planning to leave New York City on February 23, 1951, via BOAC for Nassau in the Bahamas. She will reside while there at the Prince George Hotel. She expects to be gone approximately one month.

TGS:RAA  
65-14603

RECORDED - 117

134-435-36  
FEB 26 1951  
15

61 MAY 1 1951

EX-18

EX-18

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 3, 1951

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

It has been ascertained that Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY has left the Hotel Prince George at Nassau, Bahamas, and is presently spending a month's vacation at the Hotel Condado at San Juan, Puerto Rico.

TGS:RAA  
65-14603

11 MAR 1951  
STOR. DIV.  
429/6

*Daly*

134-435-37

RECORDED - 48

~~INDEXED - 15~~

67-21

A-35

61 MAY 1 1951

65 MAR 13 1951

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: March 28, 1951

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

This office is in receipt of a radiogram dated March 26, 1951, from the San Juan Office. This radiogram advises that ELIZABETH BENTLEY was departing San Juan March 27 via Pan American Airways through the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Cuba, indicating her return to New York City on about April 3 next.

This information is being supplied to the Bureau in view of the fact that it does not appear that this radiogram was directed to the Bureau as well as this office.

TGS:RAA  
65-14603

RECORDED - 67

INDEXED - 67

MAR 29 1951

61 MAY 1 1951

60 APR 4 1951

134-435-38

ASB  
B-2  
MAR 30 1951  
RECEIVED  
FBI

*2/17*  
*sample*  
*at*

**McCall's**  
Washington Bureau  
Ex. 5395

*mh*

*sample*

**WASHINGTON PRESS CONFERENCE  
FOR MISS BENTLEY**

will be held at 4:30 p.m., Thursday,  
April 19, in North Lounge at the  
Carlton Hotel.

You are invited to come or send a  
representative.

Photographers welcome.

*For your information*

*7-16 65-56402*  
*5*  
*ASB*

*4*  
Christine Sadler

*134-425-40*

APR 26 1954

EX-121

*121*  
*65 MAY 1 1954*  
*EX-121*

*121*

*As noted on 4/20/54*

# McCall's

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
X PLEASE DO NOT RELEASE BEFORE April 19  
PLEASE RELEASE PRIOR TO

## ELIZABETH BENTLEY'S "MY LIFE AS A SPY" STARTS IN MAY McCALL'S

Elizabeth Bentley, self-confessed Communist Agent, who gave the F.B.I. the first inside story of the whole Communist spy system in America, reveals how she became emeshed in the Communist Party - in the first installment of her story, "My Life As A Spy", which appears in May McCall's - on the news-stands April 20.

Miss Bentley names names of people, places and organizations which led her to become entangled in the Red spy network of New York and Washington. She tells how she was changed from a vacillating young woman into a disciplined, obedient Bolshevik; of comrades who faltered and were liquidated; and of early meetings with her Russian lover.

The McCall's story quotes Miss Bentley on her importance to the Russian government. She says, "A Russian agent told me: 'I've known about your work for the last two years....I'm the man who sits behind the desk in Moscow and keeps track of the reports. In fact, I've been sent over here especially to see you and tell you that we all think you've done splendidly and have a great future before you.' Later he told me the Russian government had awarded me the Order of the Red Star."

In a foreword to the story, the Editors of McCall's point out that they are presenting Elizabeth Bentley's "My Life As A Spy" as a "human document of tremendous interest and significance at this time, when the Communist threat to our country has been intensified all over the world." Additional installments will appear in June, July and August McCall's.

CONTACT: Frank Hogan MU 6-4600

710 account  
4-24-51

100-425-40

SAC, New York

April 26, 1951

Director, FBI

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Tom Donnelly in his column which appeared on page 23 of the "Washington News" for April 24, 1951, reported on the press conference given for Elizabeth T. Bentley by the editors of "McCall's" magazine at the Carlton Hotel, Washington, D. C., on the afternoon of April 23, 1951. He also referred to Miss Bentley's story entitled, "My Life as a Spy," the first installment of which began in the May issue of "McCall's."

After Donnelly refers to Miss Bentley's introduction to the press, he writes, "No new sensations were unleashed tho there was a hint that Miss Bentley may figure prominently in the news a few weeks from now."

You are requested to advise whether you have any information concerning Donnelly's quoted statement.

65-56402

ASB:cal

134-435-41

65-56402

RECORDED - 85

INDEXED - 85

APR 30 1951

RECEIVED  
FBI  
MAY 1 1951

RECEIVED  
FBI  
MAY 4 23 PM '51  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COMM - FBI

APR 27 1951  
MAILED 19

62 MAY 3 1951



# Revised, and Now Serialized

By TOM DONAHUE

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, who is always described in newspaper stories as a "self-confessed Communist courier," is currently making the inevitable transition from headlines to memoirs.

The editors of McCall's have sandwiched the first installment of Miss Bentley's confessions, "My Life as a Spy," in among the May collection of recipes for Hawaiian Casserole and fictional studies of tortured wives who suspect their tall, lean, handsome husbands of philandering.

Miss Bentley was introduced, once again, to the press at a McCall's-sponsored conference at the Carlton yesterday afternoon. No new sensations were unleashed, though there was a hint that Miss Bentley may figure prominently in the news a few weeks from now. She looked very much like a Vassar girl of the class of '35 or thereabouts, which she is, and quite unlike the "Red Spy Queen" of a couple of years ago, which she also is, allowing for the inflation which invariably accompanies the use of printer's ink.

Miss Bentley read a prepared statement to the effect that she hopes that her story "will be read by as many people as possible," and that these readers "will see what Communism is really like and avoid getting entangled in it."

The first installment of Miss Bentley's memoirs (a lengthier version will come out in book form in July) ends, in the approved women's magazine fashion, with Miss Bentley's sweetheart asking her if she will stick with him.

"What should I say?" writes Miss Bentley. "Here was the man whom I admired, loved and trusted. I belonged with him, no matter what. 'I'll stick with you,' I said. It was my most fateful decision."

I expected, of course, that one of the many ladies at the press conference would ask Miss Bentley what was to happen to her romance with this man, a hardened Communist, in Installment Two.

None of them asked, however, and somehow I felt too embarrassed to. One newspaper lady, a representative of a generation preceding Miss Bentley's own, asked Miss Bentley some even more provocative questions. "Miss Bentley," demanded this lady, "do you think this expose of yours will help your country as much as your spying hurt it?" Miss Bentley replied, "That's for the Government to decide, I suppose."

In response to questions she has been asked hundreds of times, Miss Bentley said that she was drawn

into the Communist movement because she was "idealistic," saw that things in this country were very bad during the depression, and mistakenly believed that the Reds would make a better world. The elderly newspaper lady snorted at this, and looked about the room as if to invite everyone else to join her in laughing at the utter absurdity of this explanation.

"A lot of us went thru the depression, too," the news lady said, "and we didn't turn Communist."

Miss Bentley repeated her statements about her misguided idealism, etc., but it was clear that she was up against a set of very popular reactions. Many people believe (a) that the Communists are everywhere, but that (b) it is somehow inconceivable that Communists really exist and look very much like anybody else and (c) that any one who ever was a Communist is guilty of an aberration so extreme that his testimony as to the operation of the Party is suspect as either wild fantasy or some sort of ingenious lie designed to help Moscow.

Miss Bentley has been lecturing at various colleges, and she says that the Communists are still able to recruit students by first appealing to their "sense of injustice," as regards race prejudice, etc. "Of course," Miss Bentley points out, "Peace is the big appeal now. People are naturally against war, and the Communists sometimes persuade them that joining the Party is one way of helping to prevent war."

Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont 604  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_  
*Handwritten signature*

*13 X 55*

65-56402

Page 23

Times-Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. Post \_\_\_\_\_  
Wash. News ☒  
Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_  
N.Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Y. Compass \_\_\_\_\_

134-435-41

Date: 4/24/51



April 27 1951

SAC, New York

Director, FBI

CONFIDENTIAL NATIONAL DEFENSE INFORMANTS;  
THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

29611

~~134-435~~ 134-435-✓  
Reurlet April 24, 1951, listing a number of individuals and requesting an opinion as to whether or not they should register under Section 20 of the Internal Security Act of 1950.

Your attention is directed to Section B of SAC Letter # 32, Series 1951, dated April 7, 1951. Your attention is specifically directed to the comments on page 8 thereof as follows:

The Attorney General has authorized the Bureau to make a determination in cases of individuals utilized by the Bureau for intelligence purposes whether or not it would be in the interest of national security for the individual concerned to register. Accordingly, in the cases of individuals being utilized by the Field for intelligence purposes who come within the purview of this Section of the Act, you should furnish to the Bureau a copy of the detailed signed statement taken pursuant to the above instructions, together with such facts and recommendations as will be pertinent to the question of whether the registration of the individual concerned would or would not be in the interest of national security.

In the case of persons such as Whitaker Chambers, who have been publicized, and who are no longer active informants, and where reports have already been furnished the Department, it is not expected that any request for exemption from registration for such persons will be made by the Bureau.

Accordingly, in regard to each of the individuals mentioned where you feel they should be exempted from registration, you should furnish to the Bureau a copy of the detailed signed statement taken pursuant to the instructions set forth in SAC letter # 32, together with such facts and recommendations as will be pertinent to the question of whether the registration of the individual concerned would or would not be in the interest of national security.

These letters should be captioned in the appropriate files of the individual subjects concerned and should not be submitted to the Bureau under the general heading used in relet.

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

APR 27 1951

134-435-1051

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 9, 1951

FROM : SAC, NY

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Rebulet April 26 last.

On May 2, ELIZABETH BENTLEY was interviewed in connection with the comments set forth in the referenced letter, and she advised that during the press conference she had with the editors of McCall's magazine, she remembered that a Mr. DONNELLY asked her quite a few questions.

She stated that BENJAMIN GITLOW was being interviewed that day in Washington in connection with the McCARRAN Bill, and DONNELLY asked her if she would be involved in any of the hearings relative to the McCARRAN Bill. She told him that she did not know as she had not been requested to appear in this connection. It was her recollection that DONNELLY told her that he felt quite sure that she would make an appearance regarding this particular bill.

She advised that it is quite possible that this particular part of the discussion may have resulted in his comment to the effect - "No new sensations were unleashed tho there was a hint that Miss BENTLEY may figure prominently in the news a few weeks from now."

134-435-42

RECORDED - 76

145-56107

MAY 10 1951

34

INDEXED - 76

TGS:LEJ  
65-14920

56 MAY 16 1951

RECORDED

THIS SERIAL IS TOO LARGE FOR FILE AND WILL BE CARRIED AS A NOT RECORDED SERIAL  
BEHIND THE FILE

THIS SERIAL THE (Date)

*May 1951*

ISSUE OF THE (Name of the pamphlet)

*Mc Call's*

SUBJECT

*Elizabeth Bentley*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*Communist My Life as a Spy - by H-  
Elizabeth Bentley*

*134-435-43*

FILE NUMBER

*11-6328-177*

62 MAY 24 1951

20 Brook Drive  
Falls Church Va.

July 10-1951-

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover -  
Director F. B. I.  
Washington D. C.

ELIZABETH BENTLY

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a letter which is  
self explanatory. In a veiled way a  
reputable and respected person who objected  
to the articles being published by Elizabeth  
Bently - is being called a Communist.  
I do not know Mr. Mich but I venture  
to say once there was - "sky" in the  
end of his name. I read out one  
article by Miss Bently - the first - I had  
a purport beneath the surface - Earth  
defence of Communism - and I had a  
right object to it - I had a  
man is Party member - as I sus-  
pect from his desire to "sneak" my  
objections - he is, in - good place to

RECORDED - 56

INDEXED - 56

JUL 16 1951

propaganda. Communism  
for Mr. Calks is a magazine that  
gets into a great many middle  
class homes since it is so inex-  
pensive. It seems to me Miss  
Bentley had better employ her talents  
elsewhere than in the field of  
authorship and a magazine  
which sponsors her be looked at  
with askance.

Yours very truly  
WILHELMINA K. SINTNER

(Mrs Edwin J. Sintner)

P.S. I merely canceled my subscription  
to the periodical and gave my reason  
and apparently it upset Mr. Mich.  
Why? was a canceled subscription?

134-435-44

# McCall's

OFFICE OF THE  
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

July 6, 1951

Mrs. E. J. Lintner  
200 Brook Drive  
Falls Church, Virginia

Dear Mrs. Lintner:

This is in acknowledgement of your letter of June 5th.

I am sure that you have misunderstood our purpose in presenting Elizabeth Bentley's story. It is certainly not to glorify her career as a Communist and a spy, but rather to present an authentic object lesson to our country at this time when the Communists are just as guilty of aggression on the home front as they are abroad.

Far from making a heroine of Miss Bentley, McCall's is using her tragic story to point a moral.

As for her veracity, I do not blame you for mistrusting the word of any ex-Communist. However, eight years have passed since she recanted and told her story to the F.B.I. In that time, she has been instrumental in the conviction of many Communist spies.

Before deciding to publish this story, McCall's queried the F.B.I. and others in Washington, and learned that very careful checking had revealed her to be accurate in every statement she made to government officials after she quit the Communist party.

I think you will find that the Communists will be the most ardent opposition to the Bentley articles, and the rest of us will benefit.

Sincerely yours,

*Daniel D. Mich*

Daniel D. Mich  
Editorial Director

DDM:ln

RECORDED - 56  
INDEXED - 56

134-435-44

July 20, 1951

30662

EX-129

Mrs. Edwin J. Lintner  
200 Brook Drive  
Falls Church, Virginia

Dear Mrs. Lintner:

Thank you very much for your letter post-  
marked July 13, 1951, with enclosure.

It was indeed thoughtful of you to forward  
this material and I am glad to have the benefit of  
your observations.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

JUL 21 9 01 AM '51  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RBC:mad

G.I.R.-5

RECEIVED  
JUL 21 1951  
RECEIVED - FBI  
JUL 21 1 01 PM '51

MAILED 10  
JUL 21 1951

52 AUG 1 1951

RBC



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New York  
 SUBJECT: GREGORY  
 ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: September 29, 1951

On September 24, 1951, ELIZABETH BENTLEY moved into a house she recently purchased. The address of this residence is New Road, Madison, Connecticut, telephone number Madison 248.

As the Bureau is aware, Miss BENTLEY has been handled since the time she originally came into the New York Office in November, 1945, by agents of the New York Office. For the past five years she has been interviewed intermittently on various matters concerning internal security, espionage, and related matters in connection with the Bureau's work. These interviews with Miss BENTLEY have been handled by two agents of this office. Occasionally it has been necessary to have Miss BENTLEY interviewed by an agent not familiar with her background and on a few occasions this has been found to be not too satisfactory, although Miss BENTLEY has been most co-operative in all instances.

In view of the fact that Miss BENTLEY has decided to live permanently in Connecticut and has an established residence there, it is believed advisable that an experienced agent or agents of the New Haven Office be designated to handle all interviews with her in the future. It is to be noted that her present residence, Madison, Connecticut, is approximately 115 miles from New York City. In the event it is necessary to interview her, this requires the time of two agents to drive to Connecticut and return, which consumes two agent days for any interview that is had with her. It is to be noted that in all interviews with Miss BENTLEY since the time she first came to the New York Office, two agents have always been present. It is suggested that this practice be followed by the New Haven Office.

In the event the Bureau agrees with the suggestion that the New Haven Office handle Miss BENTLEY rather than the New York Office, it is believed advisable that the various field offices throughout the Bureau should be advised, probably by Bureau Bulletin or some other communication, of this change. It is suggested that the Bureau advise the New York Office if this contemplated change should be made, in view of the fact that leads are continually coming into this office from the various field offices, some of them for expeditious handling.

TGS:RAA  
 65-14603

cc - New Haven

INDEXED  
 RECORDED - 139

NY dated 10/1/51  
 cc - New Haven  
 10/1/51  
 SB:anf  
 10/1/51

*[Handwritten signature]*

SAC, New York (65-14603)

October 9, 1951

Director, FBI

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

ORANGE - R  
134-435-45

Reference is made to New York's letter of 9/29/51 suggesting that the New Haven Office rather than New York handle future interviews with Elizabeth Bentley in view of the fact that she has established permanent residence in Madison, Connecticut, where she has purchased a house on New Road.

(b)(1)

The Bureau desires that her position as a cooperative informant not be jeopardized. Therefore, it is felt that there should be no immediate transfer of Miss Bentley from the New York Office to New Haven. Rather, the Bureau feels that this transfer should be gradual and not completely consummated until the New Haven Office is adequately equipped with the necessary background information concerning her and the investigations in which she has been involved. It is believed that New Haven must have this information before it can intelligently and efficiently handle Miss Bentley with the maximum success. Therefore, the Bureau desires that the following action be taken:

CO. - New Haven.

65-56403

ASB: *cmf* 6 OCT 23, 1951

MAILED 6  
OCT 11 1951  
COMM - FBI

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
F B I  
JUN 4 56 PM '31  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

571151

**EX-89**

RECORDED

New York should continue to handle Miss Bentley until further advised by the Bureau. The next time an Agent of the New York Office has occasion to interview Miss Bentley arrangements should be made with the New Haven Office in order that the New York Agent en route to Madison, Connecticut, can stop in at the New Haven Office and thoroughly brief an Agent to be designated by the Special Agent in Charge of the New Haven Office concerning all pertinent information about Bentley and the information she has furnished the Bureau. The Bureau desires that the New York Agent be one who is thoroughly acquainted with all information pertaining to Bentley, her personality, eccentricities, etc. The Agent designated by the Special Agent in Charge at New Haven should be a mature agent and one who has had considerable experience in the espionage field, as well as experience in handling security informants.

After the New Haven Agent has been thoroughly briefed, he should accompany the New York Agent on his interviews with Elizabeth Bentley. After this interview the New Haven Agent should accompany the New York Agent on all future interviews until such time as the New Haven Office feels that it is in a position to efficiently handle all interviews with Miss Bentley. At this time New Haven should advise the Bureau that it will handle all interviews with Miss Bentley in order that the Bureau can advise the Field Offices.

In order that New Haven may be thoroughly acquainted with Miss Bentley's background it will undoubtedly be necessary for the New York Office to furnish it with pertinent serials, etc., pertaining to her and the cases in which she has been involved. It is believed that this matter can be appropriately handled at the time the New York Agent contacts the New Haven Office.

02 DEC 1946

DEC 19 46

DEC 19 46

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

FROM : M. Amos

DATE: October 6, 1951

SUBJECT: BOOK "OUT OF BONDAGE"  
STORY OF ELIZABETH BENTLEY

In accordance with your request there are attached two copies of the above-mentioned book. It is suggested they be sent to the Records Section for a complete indexing job.

Attachment

MAJ:mrh 1 copy enclosed

20 h forwarded

to Records Section

RECORDED - 92

SE 45

INDEXED - 141

65 NOV 30 1951

completeness

MY

MSH - GILLIS  
ST. PULLMAN

Tolson  
Ladd  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Belmont  
Laughlin  
Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson  
 FROM : Mr. Nichols  
 SUBJECT:

DATE: October 16, 1951

Mr. Higgins, Assistant Editor of the York, Pennsylvania, Gazette, telephonically inquired of Mr. McGuire this morning as to whether the FBI granted clearances for lecturers and when advised we do not clear anyone, Mr. Higgins was asked for the basis of his inquiry. Mr. Higgins stated that Elizabeth Bentley was going to lecture in York on Thursday night of this week under the auspices of the College Club and he had heard that she had been cleared by the FBI and was supposed to be employed by the State Department. He stated he had checked with the State Department and found she was not employed by the State Department and hence he wondered as to whether the FBI cleared people or not as it seemed most unusual to him. He was informed that the FBI does not clear anyone as this was not a function within our established jurisdiction.

cc: Mr. Belmont  
 Mr. Ladd

JJM:MP

RECORDED - 133

INDEXED 1951

EX-65

OCT 20 1951

53 NOV 1 1951

TO : \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Hester, di

ASE

58  
A-134-435-47

W

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New Haven

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: October 18, 1951

There is enclosed for the Bureau and the New York Office respectively a clipping from the New Haven Register of 10/16/51 captioned "ELIZABETH FENTLEY LIVING IN MADISON, HOPES FOR A LIFE THAT WILL BE LESS HECTIC."

The article is being enclosed for the information of the Bureau and the New York Office.

Encl.

cc: New York (Encl.)

hvk/hmp  
66-2993

RECORDED - 87

INDEXED - 87

OCT 19 1951

12

OCT 25 1951

EX-83

FIVE

134-435-48

# Elizabeth Bentley Living In Madison, Hopes For A Life That Will Be Less Hectic

**Named Ex-Communist Spy  
Sittles in Shoreline House;  
May Take Teaching Job**

Madison, Oct. 16—(Special)—Elizabeth Bentley, who was front page news for many months as a Communist who left the party to aid the FBI in exposing Communist infiltration into Government circles, has moved to Madison.

On Saturday Miss Bentley received the deed to her home on New Road which she bought about three weeks ago. The five-room house, built by Jack King, was formerly occupied by Mr. and Mrs. David Newwood.

Miss Bentley chose Madison, she said, as the town in which to make her home because of its proximity to the Sound plus the fact that she managed to find there just the right type of house with a couple of acres of land—just what she had been seeking. It was natural for her to look in Connecticut for her home, she said, having been born in Litchfield and having spent many of her summers in Stony Creek. Last Summer she spent in Clinton.

After 10 dramatic years as a Communist spy and six more as a spy for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Elizabeth Bentley is now planning a less hectic life. Her present plans include furnishing her new home, planting a good-sized garden and perhaps accepting a teaching position.

She also fills speaking engagements and is available for these through a lecture bureau.

Recently she taught political science and government in the Middlesex but, she said, "My frequent appearances did not help class morale and I gave up the teaching."

On September 24 of this year the story of her life with the Communists and the Russian Secret Police was published. This book, "Out of Bondage," is the first thing she has written. She said she found writing it hard and considers the



Elizabeth Bentley, the Communist spy who recanted and gave testimony to Congress which resulted finally in the conviction of William Remington, State Department employee, for perjury, is shown resting comfortably at her new home in Madison. On Miss Bentley's lap are her cat and her book, "Out of Bondage," which tells of her days in the Communist underground and her work for the Communists in World War II.

"Finished product 'amateurish,' however, the autobiography," agreeing with details brought out in Congressional hearings, Grand Jury investigations and major espionage trials, reads like a mystery story and gives a good picture of the work of the Communists in New York and Washington.

**Crisis in Old Lyme**

During the course of her work for the Communist Party she met and fell in love with Jacob Golos. She was associated with him for some

time before it was revealed to her that he was chief of the Russian Secret Police in the United States.

It was after his death that she came to realize that she was working for the wrong country and decided to try to make amends. Close to a breakdown over her indecision as to whether to risk her own life and the lives of all those who had been her friends for years, she came to Old Lyme to rest and make her decision.

While there she entered a church by chance. Sitting quietly in meditation she immediately thought of the 23d Psalm: "Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me." She came out of the church with her decision reached.

The next problem was how to contact the FBI without being discovered by her associates. Not daring to take a chance on being seen either at FBI offices in the Court House in New York or going to the Washington office, centrally located, she chose the New Haven FBI office as the place to reveal her undercover work. She still checks with the agents of that organization twice weekly.

After she finished her book the 250 pages describing her life before she became a Communist, were eliminated by the publisher. "This considered," says Elizabeth Bentley sitting in her new Madison home, "that my early life had been too dull."

Date 10/16/51  
Submitted by the  
New Haven Office

✓ New Haven Register  
New Haven Journal-Courier  
Daily Worker  
Yale Daily News  
Bridgeport Herald  
ENCLOSURE

65-56742-723

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT:

DATE: October 20, 1951

Mr. David Wesley with the York, Pennsylvania, Gazette and Daily called and talked to Holloman at 2:45 p.m. on October 18, 1951. He stated that Elizabeth Bentley was scheduled to make a speech in York, Pennsylvania, on the night of October 18, 1951, and asked whether or not we could furnish him with the names of individuals having been prosecuted as a result of information furnished by Elizabeth Bentley.

Mr. Wesley was advised of the confidential nature of our files and informed it would not be possible for us to be of assistance to him in this connection.

CC - Mr. Ladd

CC - Mr. Belmont

FCH:mb

HANDLED BY  
STG DESK

7-11 65-56402  
ASB

EX-6

134-435-49

RECORDED-1

OCT 20 1951

63 NOV 1 1951

OCT 25 1951



Name of Informant:

Elizabeth Bentley

Symbol Number:

Elizabeth Bentley, who has been referred from time to time as Confidential Informant Gregory, is a self-confessed former Soviet agent who operated principally in New York City and Washington, D. C. This informant presently resides at New Road, Madison, Conn.

Dates of Contact:

Although contacted at very frequent intervals, she is now interviewed about three or four times a month.

Informative Summary of Information Furnished:

She is asked about and furnishes information on Soviet espionage, underground and Communist matters. The information she supplies at the present time deals primarily with loyalty and applicant type cases.

Value of Information Received:

The information supplied by Bentley is accurate and reliable and according to the Bureau's evaluation she is considered a most valuable informant.

Labor Union Affiliation:

None

Draft Status:

None

Criminal Record:

She has no known criminal record

134-435-50  
RECORDED - 61

AN 21 1952

✓ DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

January 15, 1952

3:00 P.M.

4 ①  
Elizabeth Bentley called at the Reception Room and I explained your absence to her and escorted her to Mr. Ladd's office.

She stated that she was very disappointed that she didn't get to meet you and hopes that she will have an opportunity to shake hands with you at some future time.

GAN

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED - 159

EX - 50

F227  
61 JAN 20 1952134-435-51  
61-6-123  
JAN 21 1952  
31

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: January 23, 1952

65 FROM : SAC, New York  
SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

4-1  
G.I.R.-6

HT  
m  
ELIZABETH BENTLEY telephoned this office on January 22 and advised that on the evening of this day she is leaving for a series of speeches and will not return to her home in Connecticut until about February 14. This tour will take her to Erie, Pennsylvania, Chicago, Illinois, stops in Iowa and Nebraska, Denver, Colorado, Kansas City, Missouri, and several small towns in the vicinity of St. Louis, Missouri.

This is for the Bureau's information.

TGS:RAA  
65-14603

134-435-52

RECORDED - 108

61 FEB 1 1952

EX-125

ASB

Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney  
Criminal Division

March 13, 1952

Director, FBI

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

DECLASSIFIED BY

5886

100-37-591  
CIR-6

CH

2/23/78

The following will confirm telephone conversations had with Mr. Noel Story of the Criminal Division on March 3, 6 and 10, 1952, concerning the prospective testimony of Elizabeth Bentley in the proceedings presently pending before the Subversive Activities Control Board. Miss Bentley is expected to testify that in 1945 she received the sum of two thousand dollars from Anatole Gromov who was then First Secretary of the Russian Embassy in Washington, such money to be used as payment to her for her work and her expenses.

In November 1945 Miss Bentley advised Special Agents of this Bureau that she had received the sum of two thousand dollars from Anatole Gromov in October 1945. At the time Gromov gave her this money he told her that "there were no strings attached," and it was her impression that this payment was made to compensate her for her assistance and also in an endeavor to secure her good will. Miss Bentley voluntarily turned over to Special Agents of this Bureau an envelope containing two thousand dollars in bills stating "Here's some Moscow gold." The money was taken into the possession of the Special Agents at the request of Miss Bentley and no receipt, therefore, was furnished or requested. The money remains in a safe deposit box maintained by our New York Office in a bank in New York. No identifying marks were placed upon any of the bills by Miss Bentley.

The foregoing circumstances are recited inasmuch as they bear upon the request by Mr. Story for information as to whether there can be made available evidence to substantiate Miss Bentley's anticipated testimony concerning her receipt of the moneys involved. From the circumstances it would appear that any endeavor to corroborate Miss Bentley's testimony by production of the money would inescapably require testimony by the Special Agents to whom Miss Bentley related her story and to whom she delivered the money in question.

JJH:cmw

RECORDED  
55 MAR 13 1952

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF *discovery*  
DATE *2/24/78*

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_

55 MAR 14 1952  
COMM - FBI

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-37-591

For the various reasons which have been discussed with you on previous occasions it is not believed desirable that Special Agents of this Bureau be utilized as witnesses in the proceedings presently pending before the Subversive Activities Control Board.

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI

AUG 13 4 35 PM '25

REC'D - 1012 CASE OFFICE

RECEIVED  
DIVISION  
AUG 13 1925  
SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MR. A. H. BELMONT

May 8, 1952

MR. W. V. CLEVELAND

WILLIAM WALTER REMINGTON  
PERJURY

PURPOSE:

To advise that Confidential Informant Elizabeth Bentley contacted the New York Office on the evening of May 7, 1952, and advised that she had been severely beaten by her caretaker; and to recommend that the United States Attorney in New York be advised and arrangements made for her to discuss this matter with the U. S. Attorney since she is scheduled to be a witness in the Remington case.

DETAILS:

At 1:00, P. M., on May 8, 1952, ASAC Whelan of the New York Office telephonically advised that Confidential Informant Elizabeth Bentley had contacted SA Tom Spencer of the New York Office on the evening of May 7, 1952. She advised SA Spencer that she had had her caretaker call for her at New Haven to drive her to Madison, Connecticut. En route, she observed that her caretaker appeared to have been drinking, whereupon she became frightened and took over the wheel of the car. He started to pull at the wheel whereupon she stopped the car. She claims he hit her and she became unconscious. Upon regaining her senses, she tried to escape but he threw her bodily into the car and drove her home.

As a result of the beating inflicted upon her, her face became infected and she has now moved to a hotel in New York where she is receiving treatments. She advised SA Spencer that she had attempted to fire the caretaker but he refused to leave. She did not want to report the matter to the local police because she realized that if this episode became public knowledge, it would ruin her career as a lecturer and it would also seriously impair her effectiveness as a witness in the Remington case. Consequently, she wanted advice as to how she should proceed in connection with this personal problem.

SA Spencer feels that Miss Bentley's story set forth above may be false and that actually she and her caretaker may have been drinking heavily together and became embroiled in an argument resulting in his beating her. SA Spencer has also advised that Miss Bentley told him that she is going through a

MAY 16 1952  
WVC:jcs

NOT RECORDED

INITIAL MAY 12 1952

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL FILED IN 74-1317-1019

change of life and is receiving treatments from the same doctor who is presently treating her for the wounds inflicted by the caretaker.

ASAC Whelan stated that he thought that the U. S. Attorney in New York should be advised of this matter and if any advice is furnished to Miss Bentley, it should be given by the U. S. Attorney.

RECOMMENDATION:

If you agree, ASAC Whelan will be instructed to furnish the U. S. Attorney the facts regarding this matter and will also make arrangements for Miss Bentley to discuss her personal problem with the U. S. Attorney.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 7, 1952

FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

G.I.R.  
**SECRET**

Rebulet October 9, 1951. This letter refers to the handling of the informant ELIZABETH BENTLEY by the New Haven Office, in view of the fact that she is now permanently residing in Madison, Connecticut. (u)

TGS:RAA

cc - New Haven

**SECRET**

RECORDED - 60

134-435-54

56402

12 MAY 8 1952

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP(S) OF Class

DATE 2/24/78

Classified by 5884 2/23/78  
GPO Category 2  
Date of Declassification - Indefinite

5/19/54

Mr. [Signature]



SAC, New York (65-14603)

May 19, 1952

Director, FBI (65-58402)

RECORDED-12

134-435-54

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reurlet May 7, 1952.

The Bureau agrees with the suggested procedure for the future handling of Elizabeth Bentley. It is possible that the recent trouble she had with her caretaker may change her plans regarding residence and in that event, you should submit for the Bureau's consideration any new proposal necessary for maintaining a regular contact concerning matters of interest to us.

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
MAY 19 7 35 PM '52  
FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COMM - FBI  
MAY 20 1952  
MAILED 20

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
MAY 20 11 20 AM '52  
FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

69 MAY 26 1952  
R.J.L.:GAS

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. LADD

FROM : MR. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

DATE: May 13, 1952

G.L.R.-3

Tolson  
Ladd  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Harbo  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Nease  
Gandy

At 5:40, P. M., on May 13, 1952, ASAC Whelan called from New York to advise that U. S. Attorney Miles Lane, AUSA Cohn, and Elizabeth Bentley had held a conference today in Lane's office regarding the difficulty she has been having with her caretaker, John Wright. As a consequence, Mr. Lane has arranged for Miss Bentley to call Wright down to New York tomorrow, at which time Lane is going to talk to him. Lane intends to start out by being nice and then if Wright gives him trouble, Lane will hear down and serve a Grand Jury subpoena on him with the threat to call him in before the Grand Jury if he causes Bentley any more difficulty whatsoever. Whelan is arranging with the New Haven Office to get the identifying data on Wright, the caretaker, so that we can check our files on him. The above action by Lane is in keeping with our desire that the U. S. Attorney handle this matter insofar as possible and that we not become involved.

AHB:jes

RECORDED - 35

134-435-55

~~101-6-228-4-4~~

MAY 15 1952

25

EX-140

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

61 MAY 21 1952

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. LADD

DATE: May 12, 1952

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

ASAC Whelan, of the New York City Division, called on May 12, 1952, to advise that in accordance with Whelan's discussion with AUSA Cohn regarding Bentley's troubles with her caretaker, Cohn had seen Bentley at her hotel last Saturday night. Cohn is thinking in terms of arranging for a job for the caretaker in New London and by this procedure getting the caretaker out of Bentley's sphere of operations. In order to get more factual data, however, Cohn wants to talk to Bentley's doctor and has her permission to do so. He has an appointment at 6:00 pm tonight. Cohn would like Agent Spencer to go along with him.

I told Mr. Whelan that this was a matter we would like the United States Attorney's Office to handle, but inasmuch as Bentley is our informant and has been a valuable one, it is permissible for Spencer to go along with Cohn as an observer only and not to make any suggestions in this matter.

At noon on May 13, 1952, ASAC Whelan called back to advise that AUSA Cohn interviewed Dr. Samuel Groopman last night. Dr. Groopman, who is Bentley's physician, according to Whelan, is reliable and is house doctor for the Lapham Hotel in New York City. Special Agent Spencer accompanied Cohn as observer. Miss Bentley and a friend known only as Lady Armstrong were also present. Mr. Whelan said that Lady Armstrong is a wealthy anti-Communist resident of Connecticut who is active in Catholic circles and who has befriended persons such as Bentley who have defected from the Party. Mr. Whelan was of the opinion that Bishop Sheen put Bentley in touch with Lady Armstrong.

INDEXED-118 RECORDED-118

Dr. Groopman said that he had examined John Wright, Bentley's caretaker. This occurred at the time Wright drove Bentley to New York and Wright had an examination by Dr. Groopman on some minor matter. Dr. Groopman commented that Wright is below average mentally, a braggart and an adolescent type. He felt that Wright intends physical harm to Bentley and in his mind there was no question that Bentley was afraid of Wright and feared physical harm from him. He recommended to Bentley that she sell her place and move out of the area; however, she does not want to do so.

23/1952

AHB:tlc

Mexico 10/10/52  
5-15-52  
AHB5  
417

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Bentley wants to get her research material out of her home, have the locks changed on her doors, and have her car brought down from Connecticut.

AUSA Cohn, following the interview, pointed out that Bentley is a very important witness in the Julius Rosenberg case where her testimony was given considerable weight by the Circuit Court showing the tie-in between the Communist Party and the espionage activities of Rosenberg. He said she is also an important witness before the Subversive Activities Control Board, in the Remington case and in the matters Cohn presently has before the Federal Grand Jury in New York, such as the Kaplan case and matters involving UN personnel.

Mr. Whelan pointed out that Bentley will be a very important witness in some of the Soviet espionage cases presently being worked in New York, concerning which Mr. Cohn knows nothing. In addition, she is, of course, a key witness in the Silvermaster case in the event it is revived.

AUSA Cohn feels that there is a very real problem involved in the present situation of Bentley and one that should be settled from the standpoint of the government cases involved. Cohn is thinking in terms of bringing the caretaker Wright before a grand jury on charges of interfering with a government witness. Prior to considering this further, he will need background information on Wright.

Mr. Whelan suggested that we make discreet inquiries on Wright in Connecticut and find out if he has a criminal record, his reputation and background, and to discreetly determine just what has been going on at Bentley's home in order to provide the necessary material to Cohn.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Whelan be authorized to have a discreet check made of Wright and his background, as suggested, in order to provide material to AUSA Cohn for possible grand jury hearing on Wright. We should have more facts regarding this matter to intelligently handle it and protect the government's interest. Whelan was instructed to

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

get sufficient identifying data on Wright at once in order that an appropriate check could be made through the New York and Bureau files. Whelan was further advised that Cohn should continue to carry the ball on this matter but we should continue to be alert to developments to protect the Bureau's interest. The key to this matter appears to be the caretaker and with additional facts concerning his background it may be possible for Cohn to handle this matter by calling him before a grand jury and warning him on the basis that Bentley is a government witness.

v.g. OK sl

OK

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. LADD

DATE: May 15, 1952

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Reference is made to my memorandum of May 13, 1952, regarding the difficulty Elizabeth Bentley has been having with her caretaker, John Wright.

Supervisor Tom McAndrews, of the New York Division, advised on May 15, that Wright had been interviewed by USA Myles Lane. Wright, at that time, told a little different story than Bentley. He said that Bentley had been drinking and he had, therefore, taken control of the car from her. He admits that when she resisted, he physically attacked her.

USA Lane, according to McAndrews, told Wright "to get out of Bentley's life" and that he would take action against Wright if he further interfered with Government witness Bentley in any respect. As a result, Wright turned over the car keys and automobile to Miss Bentley and in so far as is known at this time is complying with the United States Attorney's instructions.

Mr. McAndrews said that Wright has a criminal record for assault in Connecticut. I requested that he prepare an over-all letter on this entire incident for record purposes and in it provide sufficient background on Wright so that we could check our files here on him.

AHB:tlc

RECORDED - 118

134-435-57

MAY 20 1952

26

61-111-112

## SEARCH SLIP

for

R.

subj:

Exact Spelling

Searchers

All References

Initial

Subversive Ref.

Date

Main File

Restricted to Locality of

*Continued on reverse*

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

*NR**9-1-15**PI**NR**NR**NR**NR**NR**NR**NR**NR - 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th 13th 14th 15th 16th 17th 18th 19th 20th 21st 22nd 23rd 24th 25th 26th 27th 28th 29th 30th 31st 32nd 33rd 34th 35th 36th 37th 38th 39th 40th 41st 42nd 43rd 44th 45th 46th 47th 48th 49th 50th 51st 52nd 53rd 54th 55th 56th 57th 58th 59th 60th 61st 62nd 63rd 64th 65th 66th 67th 68th 69th 70th 71st 72nd 73rd 74th 75th 76th 77th 78th 79th 80th 81st 82nd 83rd 84th 85th 86th 87th 88th 89th 90th 91st 92nd 93rd 94th 95th 96th 97th 98th 99th 100th 101st 102nd 103rd 104th 105th 106th 107th 108th 109th 110th 111th 112th 113th 114th 115th 116th 117th 118th 119th 120th 121st 122nd 123rd 124th 125th 126th 127th 128th 129th 130th 131st 132nd 133rd 134th 135th 136th 137th 138th 139th 140th 141st 142nd 143rd 144th 145th 146th 147th 148th 149th 150th 151st 152nd 153rd 154th 155th 156th 157th 158th 159th 160th 161st 162nd 163rd 164th 165th 166th 167th 168th 169th 170th 171st 172nd 173rd 174th 175th 176th 177th 178th 179th 180th 181st 182nd 183rd 184th 185th 186th 187th 188th 189th 190th 191st 192nd 193rd 194th 195th 196th 197th 198th 199th 200th 201st 202nd 203rd 204th 205th 206th 207th 208th 209th 210th 211st 212nd 213rd 214th 215th 216th 217th 218th 219th 220th 221st 222nd 223rd 224th 225th 226th 227th 228th 229th 230th 231st 232nd 233rd 234th 235th 236th 237th 238th 239th 240th 241st 242nd 243rd 244th 245th 246th 247th 248th 249th 250th 251st 252nd 253rd 254th 255th 256th 257th 258th 259th 260th 261st 262nd 263rd 264th 265th 266th 267th 268th 269th 270th 271st 272nd 273rd 274th 275th 276th 277th 278th 279th 280th 281st 282nd 283rd 284th 285th 286th 287th 288th 289th 290th 291st 292nd 293rd 294th 295th 296th 297th 298th 299th 300th 301st 302nd 303rd 304th 305th 306th 307th 308th 309th 310th 311st 312nd 313rd 314th 315th 316th 317th 318th 319th 320th 321st 322nd 323rd 324th 325th 326th 327th 328th 329th 330th 331st 332nd 333rd 334th 335th 336th 337th 338th 339th 340th 341st 342nd 343rd 344th 345th 346th 347th 348th 349th 350th 351st 352nd 353rd 354th 355th 356th 357th 358th 359th 360th 361st 362nd 363rd 364th 365th 366th 367th 368th 369th 370th 371st 372nd 373rd 374th 375th 376th 377th 378th 379th 380th 381st 382nd 383rd 384th 385th 386th 387th 388th 389th 390th 391st 392nd 393rd 394th 395th 396th 397th 398th 399th 400th 401st 402nd 403rd 404th 405th 406th 407th 408th 409th 410th 411st 412nd 413rd 414th 415th 416th 417th 418th 419th 420th 421st 422nd 423rd 424th 425th 426th 427th 428th 429th 430th 431st 432nd 433rd 434th 435th 436th 437th 438th 439th 440th 441st 442nd 443rd 444th 445th 446th 447th 448th 449th 450th 451st 452nd 453rd 454th 455th 456th 457th 458th 459th 460th 461st 462nd 463rd 464th 465th 466th 467th 468th 469th 470th 471st 472nd 473rd 474th 475th 476th 477th 478th 479th 480th 481st 482nd 483rd 484th 485th 486th 487th 488th 489th 490th 491st 492nd 493rd 494th 495th 496th 497th 498th 499th 500th 501st 502nd 503rd 504th 505th 506th 507th 508th 509th 510th 511st 512nd 513rd 514th 515th 516th 517th 518th 519th 520th 521st 522nd 523rd 524th 525th 526th 527th 528th 529th 530th 531st 532nd 533rd 534th 535th 536th 537th 538th 539th 540th 541st 542nd 543rd 544th 545th 546th 547th 548th 549th 550th 551st 552nd 553rd 554th 555th 556th 557th 558th 559th 560th 561st 562nd 563rd 564th 565th 566th 567th 568th 569th 570th 571st 572nd 573rd 574th 575th 576th 577th 578th 579th 580th 581st 582nd 583rd 584th 585th 586th 587th 588th 589th 590th 591st 592nd 593rd 594th 595th 596th 597th 598th 599th 600th 601st 602nd 603rd 604th 605th 606th 607th 608th 609th 610th 611st 612nd 613rd 614th 615th 616th 617th 618th 619th 620th 621st 622nd 623rd 624th 625th 626th 627th 628th 629th 630th 631st 632nd 633rd 634th 635th 636th 637th 638th 639th 640th 641st 642nd 643rd 644th 645th 646th 647th 648th 649th 650th 651st 652nd 653rd 654th 655th 656th 657th 658th 659th 660th 661st 662nd 663rd 664th 665th 666th 667th 668th 669th 670th 671st 672nd 673rd 674th 675th 676th 677th 678th 679th 680th 681st 682nd 683rd 684th 685th 686th 687th 688th 689th 690th 691st 692nd 693rd 694th 695th 696th 697th 698th 699th 700th 701st 702nd 703rd 704th 705th 706th 707th 708th 709th 710th 711st 712nd 713rd 714th 715th 716th 717th 718th 719th 720th 721st 722nd 723rd 724th 725th 726th 727th 728th 729th 730th 731st 732nd 733rd 734th 735th 736th 737th 738th 739th 740th 741st 742nd 743rd 744th 745th 746th 747th 748th 749th 750th 751st 752nd 753rd 754th 755th 756th 757th 758th 759th 760th 761st 762nd 763rd 764th 765th 766th 767th 768th 769th 770th 771st 772nd 773rd 774th 775th 776th 777th 778th 779th 780th 781st 782nd 783rd 784th 785th 786th 787th 788th 789th 790th 791st 792nd 793rd 794th 795th 796th 797th 798th 799th 800th 801st 802nd 803rd 804th 805th 806th 807th 808th 809th 810th 811st 812nd 813rd 814th 815th 816th 817th 818th 819th 820th 821st 822nd 823rd 824th 825th 826th 827th 828th 829th 830th 831st 832nd 833rd 834th 835th 836th 837th 838th 839th 840th 841st 842nd 843rd 844th 845th 846th 847th 848th 849th 850th 851st 852nd 853rd 854th 855th 856th 857th 858th 859th 860th 861st 862nd 863rd 864th 865th 866th 867th 868th 869th 870th 871st 872nd 873rd 874th 875th 876th 877th 878th 879th 880th 881st 882nd 883rd 884th 885th 886th 887th 888th 889th 890th 891st 892nd 893rd 894th 895th 896th 897th 898th 899th 900th 901st 902nd 903rd 904th 905th 906th 907th 908th 909th 910th 911st 912nd 913rd 914th 915th 916th 917th 918th 919th 920th 921st 922nd 923rd 924th 925th 926th 927th 928th 929th 930th 931st 932nd 933rd 934th 935th 936th 937th 938th 939th 940th 941st 942nd 943rd 944th 945th 946th 947th 948th 949th 950th 951st 952nd 953rd 954th 955th 956th 957th 958th 959th 960th 961st 962nd 963rd 964th 965th 966th 967th 968th 969th 970th 971st 972nd 973rd 974th 975th 976th 977th 978th 979th 980th 981st 982nd 983rd 984th 985th 986th 987th 988th 989th 990th 991st 992nd 993rd 994th 995th 996th 997th 998th 999th 1000th 1001st 1002nd 1003rd 1004th 1005th 1006th 1007th 1008th 1009th 1010th 1011st 1012nd 1013rd 1014th 1015th 1016th 1017th 1018th 1019th 1020th 1021st 1022nd 1023rd 1024th 1025th 1026th 1027th 1028th 1029th 1030th 1031st 1032nd 1033rd 1034th 1035th 1036th 1037th 1038th 1039th 1040th 1041st 1042nd 1043rd 1044th 1045th 1046th 1047th 1048th 1049th 1050th 1051st 1052nd 1053rd 1054th 1055th 1056th 1057th 1058th 1059th 1060th 1061st 1062nd 1063rd 1064th 1065th 1066th 1067th 1068th 1069th 1070th 1071st 1072nd 1073rd 1074th 1075th 1076th 1077th 1078th 1079th 1080th 1081st 1082nd 1083rd 1084th 1085th 1086th 1087th 1088th 1089th 1090th 1091st 1092nd 1093rd 1094th 1095th 1096th 1097th 1098th 1099th 1100th 1101st 1102nd 1103rd 1104th 1105th 1106th 1107th 1108th 1109th 1110th 1111st 1112nd 1113rd 1114th 1115th 1116th 1117th 1118th 1119th 1120th 1121st 1122nd 1123rd 1124th 1125th 1126th 1127th 1128th 1129th 1130th 1131st 1132nd 1133rd 1134th 1135th 1136th 1137th 1138th 1139th 1140th 1141st 1142nd 1143rd 1144th 1145th 1146th 1147th 1148th 1149th 1150th 1151st 1152nd 1153rd 1154th 1155th 1156th 1157th 1158th 1159th 1160th 1161st 1162nd 1163rd 1164th 1165th 1166th 1167th 1168th 1169th 1170th 1171st 1172nd 1173rd 1174th 1175th 1176th 1177th 1178th 1179th 1180th 1181st 1182nd 1183rd 1184th 1185th 1186th 1187th 1188th 1189th 1190th 1191st 1192nd 1193rd 1194th 1195th 1196th 1197th 1198th 1199th 1200th 1201st 1202nd 1203rd 1204th 1205th 1206th 1207th 1208th 1209th 1210th 1211st 1212nd 1213rd 1214th 1215th 1216th 1217th 1218th 1219th 1220th 1221st 1222nd 1223rd 1224th 1225th 1226th 1227th 1228th 1229th 1230th 1231st 1232nd 1233rd 1234th 1235th 1236th 1237th 1238th 1239th 1240th 1241st 1242nd 1243rd 1244th 1245th 1246th 1247th 1248th 1249th 1250th 1251st 1252nd 1253rd 1254th 1255th 1256th 1257th 1258th 1259th 1260th 1261st 1262nd 1263rd 1264th 1265th 1266th 1267th 1268th 1269th 1270th 1271st 1272nd 1273rd 1274th 1275th 1276th 1277th 1278th 1279th 1280th 1281st 1282nd 1283rd 1284th 1285th 1286th 1287th 1288th 1289th 1290th 1291st 1292nd 1293rd 1294th 1295th 1296th 1297th 1298th 1299th 1300th 1301st 1302nd 1303rd 1304th 1305th 1306th 1307th 1308th 1309th 1310th 1311st 1312nd 1313rd 1314th 1315th 1316th 1317th 1318th 1319th 1320th 1321st 1322nd 1323rd 1324th 1325th 1326th 1327th 1328th 1329th 1330th 1331st 1332nd 1333rd 1334th 1335th 1336th 1337th 1338th 1339th 1340th 1341st 1342nd 1343rd 1344th 1345th 1346th 1347th 1348th 1349th 1350th 1351st 1352nd 1353rd 1354th 1355th 1356th 1357th 1358th 1359th 1360th 1361st 1362nd 1363rd 1364th 1365th 1366th 1367th 1368th 1369th 1370th 1371st 1372nd 1373rd 1374th 1375th 1376th 1377th 1378th 1379th 1380th 1381st 1382nd 1383rd 1384th 1385th 1386th 1387th 1388th 1389th 1390th 1391st 1392nd 1393rd 1394th 1395th 1396th 1397th 1398th 1399th 1400th 1401st 1402nd 1403rd 1404th 1405th 1406th 1407th 1408th 1409th 1410th 1411st 1412nd 1413rd 1414th 1415th 1416th 1417th 1418th 1419th 1420th 1421st 1422nd 1423rd 1424th 1425th 1426th 1427th 1428th 1429th 1430th 1431st 1432nd 1433rd 1434th 1435th 1436th 1437th 1438th 1439th 1440th 1441st 1442nd 1443rd 1444th 1445th 1446th 1447th 1448th 1449th 1450th 1451st 1452nd 1453rd 1454th 1455th 1456th 1457th 1458th 1459th 1460th 1461st 1462nd 1463rd 1464th 1465th 1466th 1467th 1468th 1469th 1470th 1471st 1472nd 1473rd 1474th 1475th 1476th 1477th 1478th 1479th 1480th 1481st 1482nd 1483rd 1484th 1485th 1486th 1487th 1488th 1489th 1490th 1491st 1492nd 1493rd 1494th 1495th 1496th 1497th 1498th 1499th 1500th 1501st 1502nd 1503rd 1504th 1505th 1506th 1507th 1508th 1509th 1510th 1511st 1512nd 1513rd 1514th 1515th 1516th 1517th 1518th 1519th 1520th 1521st 1522nd 1523rd 1524th 1525th 1526th 1527th 1528th 1529th 1530th 1531st 1532nd 1533rd 1534th 1535th 1536th 1537th 1538th 1539th 1540th 1541st 1542nd 1543rd 1544th 1545th 1546th 1547th 1548th 1549th 1550th 1551st 1552nd 1553rd 1554th 1555th 1556th 1557th 1558th 1559th 1560th 1561st 1562nd 1563rd 1564th 1565th 1566th 1567th 1568th 1569th 1570th 1571st 1572nd 1573rd 1574th 1575th 1576th 1577th 1578th 1579th 1580th 1581st 1582nd 1583rd 1584th 1585th 1586th 1587th 1588th 1589th 1590th 1591st 1592nd 1593rd 1594th 1595th 1596th 1597th 1598th 1599th 1600th 1601st 1602nd 1603rd 1604th 1605th 1606th 1607th 1608th 1609th 1610th 1611st 1612nd 1613rd 1614th 1615th 1616th 1617th 1618th 1619th 1620th 1621st 1622nd 1623rd 1624th 1625th 1626th 1627th 1628th 1629th 1630th 1631st 1632nd 1633rd 1634th 1635th 1636th 1637th 1638th 1639th 1640th 1641st 1642nd 1643rd 1644th 1645th 1646th 1647th 1648th 1649th 1650th 1651st 1652nd 1653rd 1654th 1655th 1656th 1657th 1658th 1659th 1660th 1661st 1662nd 1663rd 1664th 1665th 1666th 1667th 1668th 1669th 1670th 1671st 1672nd 1673rd 1674th 1675th 1676th 1677th 1678th 1679th 1680th 1681st 1682nd 1683rd 1684th 1685th 1686th 1687th 1688th 1689th 1690th 1691st 1692nd 1693rd 1694th 1695th 1696th 1697th 1698th 1699th 1700th 1701st 1702nd 1703rd 1704th 1705th 1706th 1707th 1708th 1709th 1710th 1711st 1712nd 1713rd 1714th 1715th 1716th 1717th 1718th 1719th 1720th 1721st 1722nd 1723rd 1724th 1725th 1726th 1727th 1728th 1729th 1730th 1731st 1732nd 1733rd 1734th 1735th 1736th 1737th 1738th 1739th 1740th 1741st 1742nd 1743rd 1744th 1745th 1746th 1747th 1748th 1749th 1750th 1751st 1752nd 1753rd 1754th 1755th 1756th 1757th 1758th 1759th 1760th 1761st 1762nd 1763rd 1764th 1765th 1766th 1767th 1768th 1769th 1770th 1771st 1772nd 1773rd 1774th 1775th 1776th 1777th 1778th 1779th 1780th 1781st 1782nd 1783rd 1784th 1785th 1786th 1787th 1788th 1789th 1790th 1791st 1792nd 1793rd 1794th 1795th 1796th 1797th 1798th 1799th 1800th 1801st 1802nd 1803rd 1804th 1805th 1806th 1807th 1808th 1809th 1810th 1811st 1812nd 1813rd 1814th 1815th 1816th 1817th 1818th 1819th 1820th 1821st 1822nd 1823rd 1824th 1825th 1826th 1827th 1828th 1829th 1830th 1831st 1832nd 1833rd 1834th 1835th 1836th 1837th 1838th 1839th 1840th 1841st 1842nd 1843rd 1844th 1845th 1846th 1847th 1848th 1849th 1850th 1851st 1852nd 1853rd 1854th 1855th 1856th 1857th 1858th 1859th 1860th 1861st 1862nd 1863rd 1864th 1865th 1866th 1867th 1868th 1869th 1870th 1871st 1872nd 1873rd 1874th 1875th 1876th 1877th 1878th 1879th 1880th 1881st 1882nd 1883rd 1884th 1885th 1886th 1887th 1888th 1889th 1890th 1891st 1892nd 1893rd 1894th 1895th 1896th 1897th 1898th 1899th 1900th 1901st 1902nd 1903rd 1904th 1905th 1906th 1907th 1908th 1909th 1910th 1911st 1912nd 1913rd 1914th 1915th 1916th 1917th 1918th 1919th 1920th 1921st 1922nd 1923rd 1924th 1925th 1926th 1927th 1928th 1929th 1930th 1931st 1932nd 1933rd 1934th 1935th 1936th 1937th 1938th 1939th 1940th 1941st 1942nd 1943rd 1944th 1945th 1946th 1947th 1948th 1949th 1950th 1951st 1952nd 1953rd 1954th 1955th 1956th 1957th 1958th 1959th 1960th 1961st 1962nd 1963rd 1964th 1965th 1966th 1967th 1968th 1969th 1970th 1971st 1972nd 1973rd 1974th 1975th 1976th 1977th 1978th 1979th 1980th 1981st 1982nd 1983rd 1984th 1985th 1986th 1987th 1988th 1989th 1990th 1991st 1992nd 1993rd 1994th 1995th 1996th 1997th 1998th 1999th 2000th 2001st 2002nd 2003rd 2004th 2005th 2006th 2007th 2008th 2009th 2010th 2011st 2012nd 2013rd 2014th 2015th 2016th 2017th 2018th 2019th 2020th 2021st 2022nd 2023rd 2024th 2025th 2026th 2027th 2028th 2029th 2030th 2031st 2032nd 2033rd 2034th 2035th 2036th 2037th 2038th 2039th 2040th 2041st 2042nd 2043rd 2044th 2045th 2046th 2047th 2048th 2049th 2050th 2051st 2052nd 2053rd 2054th 2055th 2056th 2057th 2058th 2059th 2060th 2061st 2062nd 2063rd 2064th 2065th 2066th 2067th 2068th 2069th 2070th 2071st 2072nd 2073rd 2074th 2075th 2076th 2077th 2078th 2079th 2080th 2081st 2082nd 2083rd 2084th 2085th 2086th 2087th 2088th 2089th 2090th 2091st 2092nd 2093rd 2094th 2095th 2096th 2097th 2098th 2099th 2100th 2101st 2102nd 2103rd 2104th 2105th 21*

Subj: *John Wright*

☒ Exact Spelling  
☒ All References  
☒ Subversive Ref.  
☒ Main File

Searchers  
 Initial *am*  
 Date *5-20-52*

☒ Restricted to Locality of  
*Connecticut & Mass.*

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

*NR 15-25039-43 p. 3433*

*G. B. (Comm.)*

*Mr*

*G. (Comm.)*

*Mr*

*John B. (X's. Comm.)*

*Mr*

Initialed



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 16, 1952

FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Attention: Assistant Director A. H. Belmont

On the afternoon of May 7, 1952, ELIZABETH BENTLEY personally appeared at the New York Office and advised that she wanted to discuss a very personal problem.

Miss BENTLEY related that about a week ago she had informed AUSA ROY COHN that she would be unable to keep a scheduled appearance with the Subversive Activities Control Board in view of the fact that she had had an accident in her home which resulted, in her face being rather badly cut and swollen. She stated that this was not true, and that as a matter of fact on April 30, 1952, she had been assaulted by her handyman, JOHN BURCHARDT WRIGHT....

By way of explanation Miss BENTLEY stated that in November, 1951, some time after she had purchased a home in Madison, Connecticut, she found that because of her lecture tours and other outside activities, it was necessary for her to have someone help her in running her household. She employed WRIGHT, who is married to ELIZABETH PIERCE WRIGHT and who resides on the Post Road at Madison, Connecticut, as a handyman. His employment was satisfactory up until the early part of March, 1952, when she discovered that WRIGHT had been charging liquor to her account and was otherwise acting as if he were one of the household rather than just an employee. She was about to discharge him when she was stricken with "black influenza" and was confined to her bed for a period of a month.

Miss BENTLEY stated that on April 27, 1952, she had a speaking engagement in Toledo, Ohio. After fulfilling this engagement she returned to New York City, and on April 30 she called WRIGHT and asked him to meet her at the railroad station in New Haven, Connecticut. He met her as prearranged, and when they were about a mile or so out of New Haven en route to Madison, she observed that his driving was not too steady and she got the impression that WRIGHT had been on a prolonged drinking spree. She related that she then took the wheel, and after driving another mile or so WRIGHT grabbed the wheel and turned off the ignition. When she finally got the car stopped she asked WRIGHT why he was tampering with the automobile while it was moving, and he said nothing, but hit her on the side of the face and chin with such force that she temporarily blacked out, and when she came to she found herself on the side of the road outside of the automobile. She attempted to run to the nearest home for assistance, but WRIGHT grabbed her, put her back in the automobile, and drove her to her home in Madison.

TGS:RAA

cc - New Haven

RECORDED - 135

INDEXED - 135

10

51 APR 27 1953

The next day Miss BENTLEY requested WRIGHT to drive her to New York City, which he did. She then went to Dr. SAMUEL GROOPMAN, who has his office in the Latham Hotel which adjoins the Prince George Hotel on East 28th Street, where Miss BENTLEY lives while she is in New York City. According to both Dr. GROOPMAN and Miss BENTLEY, her condition was quite serious in view of the fact that as a result of the beating inflicted on her by WRIGHT several teeth on the left side of her face were loosened, two of her lower teeth had gone completely through the lower part of her face, and the cuts on the inside of her mouth had become infected.

Miss BENTLEY advised that she wanted very much to return to her home in Madison, but because of her fear of WRIGHT, wanted to have two agents assigned as bodyguards in order that WRIGHT might not continue to annoy her or inflict bodily harm upon her.

The Bureau was telephonically advised of the above facts, and at the suggestion of the Bureau these facts were made known to USA MYLES LANE. USA LANE advised that since AUSA ROY COHN had handled Miss BENTLEY in the past, he was going to assign this matter to him.

On May 12, 1952, AUSA ROY COHN advised that he had made an appointment with Miss BENTLEY's Doctor for that evening, and requested that an agent of this office familiar with the BENTLEY case accompany him. Again on the advice of the Bureau, an agent of this office did accompany COHN, but merely as an observer.

Upon arriving at the Doctor's office it was observed that not only Dr. GROOPMAN was in his suite, but Miss BENTLEY and Lady ARMSTRONG were also present. By way of explanation, Lady ARMSTRONG is an American who is the widow of an English nobleman who made a substantial fortune in the United States. Since her husband's demise Lady ARMSTRONG, who is a personal friend of FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN and Bishop FULTON SHEEN, has spent a great deal of her time and money in assisting individuals such as Miss BENTLEY in becoming rehabilitated. Lady ARMSTRONG has been a friend of, and has assisted Miss BENTLEY, since shortly after her break with the Communists in November of 1945.

Dr. GROOPMAN advised that Miss BENTLEY was in a state of nervous shock as a result of the assault by WRIGHT, and that he was of the definite opinion that Miss BENTLEY should have nothing further to do with this individual. Lady ARMSTRONG was of the same opinion, but Miss BENTLEY, who was observed to be in a very highly emotional state, pointed out that she desired to return to her home in Madison if something could be done to definitely assure her that WRIGHT would not annoy her in the future.

On May 13, 1952, a conference was held in the office of USA MYLES LANE, at which were present AUSA ROY COHN, Miss BENTLEY, and an agent of this

office. MYLES LANE advised that it was his intention to issue a subpoena for WRIGHT to call him into his office and obtain an explanation of all details concerning the assault, and to "lay down the law to WRIGHT." Miss BENTLEY volunteered that she would be able to call WRIGHT on the telephone and ask him to come to New York to pick her up on May 14, and at that time the subpoena could be served and he could be interrogated by Mr. LANE. This was done, and on May 14 Miss BENTLEY was taken to her home in Madison, Connecticut, and services of a locksmith were obtained in New Haven who changed all the locks on Miss BENTLEY's doors. Later that evening her automobile, which WRIGHT had driven to New York, was returned to her by WRIGHT.

Of possible significance in this entire episode is the fact that while Miss BENTLEY was in New York recovering, JOHN WRIGHT took it upon himself to go to Miss BENTLEY's insurance agent in Madison and obtain some forms which he wanted her to fill out indicating that the injury she suffered was the result of an accident she had in her residence which was covered by an insurance policy she maintained. These forms were sent by WRIGHT to Dr. GROOPMAN, but Dr. GROOPMAN stated that he of course would not be a party to an action of this kind. Miss BENTLEY stated that she would not press this claim, and is going to make some excuse to the insurance company as to why she is not pressing it.

The following is a summary of the conversation had between USA MYLES LANE and JOHN WRIGHT in connection with the subpoena issued for his appearance before the Grand Jury:

Mr. LANE advised WRIGHT that he in turn had been advised by Miss BENTLEY that WRIGHT was harassing her and that on one occasion he had used physical violence on her. Mr. LANE asked WRIGHT for his explanation, and WRIGHT in some detail advised that he commenced working for Miss BENTLEY in August, 1951, and acted in the capacity of chauffeur and caretaker for her. He related that a week or so ago he met Miss BENTLEY at New Haven at about 6:18 p.m. one evening, and although it was dinner time Miss BENTLEY insisted on having several drinks. WRIGHT related that in his past experience, and because of statements made on this occasion by Miss BENTLEY, he knew that she had been using barbiturates and other drugs which she has on prescription. He stated they consumed \$13.50 worth of liquor in a respectable restaurant in New Haven. Upon leaving the restaurant, according to WRIGHT, Miss BENTLEY insisted on driving home, and in the course of this WRIGHT in the vicinity of Branford, Connecticut, became nervous over the manner in which Miss BENTLEY was operating the car and gradually brought the car over to the right hand side of the road and stopped. Thereafter he removed the keys and announced to Miss BENTLEY that he was going to drive the rest of the way. WRIGHT said Miss BENTLEY objected, and when he refused to return the keys to her she struck him across the face with her gloves, which were trimmed with buckles. WRIGHT stated that due possibly to the influence of the drinks he "blew his cork and hit her with a right cross." He said she fell out of the car and then he got out of the car,

crossed around, and assisted her back in. WRIGHT stated that he then drove on to Madison.

USA LANE then cautioned WRIGHT and advised him of the penalty he might suffer for interfering with a Government witness, and he agreed that he would terminate any further relationship with Miss BENTLEY. LANE cautioned him about discussing this incident with any individuals, and WRIGHT advised that there was no one in Madison, Connecticut, that knew of this particular incident.

WRIGHT was left in possession of a Grand Jury subpoena which was marked on a continuing basis, and was cautioned by Mr. LANE that should he, WRIGHT, be reported as having any association with BENTLEY in the future, he would be recalled and brought before a Grand Jury to explain his actions.

The following information was ascertained by the New Haven Office concerning JOHN BURCHARD WRIGHT:

He was born December 12, 1897, at Worcester, Massachusetts. He was arrested by the Clinton, Connecticut, State Police on May 14, 1934. He has Connecticut State Police No. 1455FL. On this date he was arrested on two counts of breaking and entering. He was convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment which he served at the Hadrian, Connecticut, County Jail.

On May 7, 1930, he was arrested by the Madison, Connecticut, Police Department (Madison PD No. 1554FP). He was arrested as a result of an indictment containing four counts charging him with (a) assault to kill; (b) aggravated assault; (c) plain assault; (d) breach of the peace. Counts 1 and 2 were dismissed, and on count 3 he was sentenced to serve a three months term and to pay a fine of \$150. He received a suspended sentence on count 4.

During the conference that was held in the office of Dr. GROOPMAN, Lady ARMSTRONG advised that Miss BENTLEY had had some differences of opinion with her Pastor, although Lady ARMSTRONG did not comment further on this.

It has been ascertained through Reverend THOMAS E. HAYES, Pastor of St. Margaret's Parish, Madison, Connecticut, that local gossip had it that JOHN WRIGHT was actually more than a caretaker in his employment by ELIZABETH BENTLEY. Father HAYES stated that he called Miss BENTLEY on the telephone and advised her of the rumors he had heard, and she informed him that these rumors had no basis in fact and that WRIGHT was merely a caretaker. Miss BENTLEY became rather upset because Father HAYES would give any credence of gossip of this type, and as a result she even to this date does not feel too kindly towards Father HAYES.

Director, FBI

May 16, 1952

SAC, New York (65-14603)

GREGORY

ESPIONAGE - R

Attention: Assistant Director A. H. Belmont

On the afternoon of May 7, 1952, ELIZABETH BENTLEY personally appeared at the New York Office and advised that she wanted to discuss a very personal problem.

Miss BENTLEY related that about a week ago she had informed AUSA ROY COHN that she would be unable to keep a scheduled appearance with the Subversive Activities Control Board in view of the fact that she had had an accident in her home which resulted in her face being rather badly cut and swollen. She stated that this was not true, and that as a matter of fact on April 30, 1952, she had been assaulted by her handyman, JOHN BURGHARDT WRIGHT.

By way of explanation Miss BENTLEY stated that in November, 1951, some time after she had purchased a home in Madison, Connecticut, she found that because of her lecture tours and other outside activities it was necessary for her to have someone help her in running her household. She employed WRIGHT, who is married to ELIZABETH PIERCE WRIGHT and who resides on the Post Road at Madison, Connecticut, as a handyman. His employment was satisfactory up until the early part of March, 1952, when she discovered that WRIGHT had been charging liquor to her account and was otherwise acting as if he were one of the household rather than just an employee. She was about to discharge him when she was stricken with "black influenza" and was confined to her bed for a period of a month.

Miss BENTLEY stated that on April 27, 1952, she had a speaking engagement in Toledo, Ohio. After fulfilling this engagement she returned to New York City, and on April 30 she called WRIGHT and asked him to meet her at the railroad station in New Haven, Connecticut. He met her as prearranged, and when they were about a mile or so out of New Haven en route to Madison, she observed that his driving was not too steady and she got the impression that WRIGHT had been on a prolonged drinking spree. She related that she then took the wheel, and after driving another mile or so WRIGHT grabbed the wheel and turned off the ignition. When she finally got the car stopped she asked WRIGHT why he was tampering with the automobile while it was moving, and he said nothing, but hit her on the side of the face and chin with such force that she temporarily blacked out, and when she came to she found herself on the side of the road outside of the automobile. She attempted to run to the nearest home for assistance, but WRIGHT grabbed her, put her back in the automobile, and drove her to her home in Madison.

TGS:RAA

c - New Haven

The next day Miss BENTLEY requested WRIGHT to drive her to New York City, which he did. She then went to Dr. SAMUEL GROOPMAN, who has his office in the Latham Hotel which adjoins the Prince George Hotel on East 28th Street, where Miss BENTLEY lives while she is in New York City. According to both Dr. GROOPMAN and Miss BENTLEY, her condition was quite serious in view of the fact that as a result of the beating inflicted on her by WRIGHT several teeth on the left side of her face were loosened, two of her lower teeth had gone completely through the lower part of her face, and the cuts on the inside of her mouth had become infected.

Miss BENTLEY advised that she wanted very much to return to her home in Madison, but because of her fear of WRIGHT, wanted to have two agents assigned as bodyguards in order that WRIGHT might not continue to annoy her or inflict bodily harm upon her.

The Bureau was telephonically advised of the above facts, and at the suggestion of the Bureau these facts were made known to USA MYLES LANE. USA LANE advised that since AUSA ROY CORN had handled Miss BENTLEY in the past, he was going to assign this matter to him.

On May 12, 1952, AUSA ROY CORN advised that he had made an appointment with Miss BENTLEY's Doctor for that evening, and requested that an agent of this office familiar with the BENTLEY case accompany him. Again on the advice of the Bureau, an agent of this office did accompany CORN, but merely as an observer.

Upon arriving at the Doctor's office it was observed that not only Dr. GROOPMAN was in his suite, but Miss BENTLEY and Lady ARMSTRONG were also present. By way of explanation, Lady ARMSTRONG is an American who is the widow of an English nobleman who made a substantial fortune in the United States. Since her husband's demise Lady ARMSTRONG, who is a personal friend of FRANCIS CARDINAL SPRELMAN and Bishop FULTON SKEEN, has spent a great deal of her time and money in assisting individuals such as Miss BENTLEY in becoming rehabilitated. Lady ARMSTRONG has been a friend of, and has assisted Miss BENTLEY, since shortly after her break with the Communists in November of 1945.

Dr. GROOPMAN advised that Miss BENTLEY was in a state of nervous shock as a result of the assault by WRIGHT, and that he was of the definite opinion that Miss BENTLEY should have nothing further to do with this individual. Lady ARMSTRONG was of the same opinion, but Miss BENTLEY, who was observed to be in a very highly emotional state, pointed out that she desired to return to her home in Madison if something could be done to definitely assure her that WRIGHT would not annoy her in the future.

On May 13, 1952, a conference was held in the office of USA MYLES LANE, at which were present AUSA ROY CORN, Miss BENTLEY, and an agent of this

office. MYLES LANE advised that it was his intention to issue a subpoena for WRIGHT to call him into his office and obtain an explanation of all details concerning the assault, and to "lay down the law to WRIGHT." Miss BENTLEY volunteered that she would be able to call WRIGHT on the telephone and ask him to come to New York to pick her up on May 14, and at that time the subpoena could be served and he could be interrogated by Mr. LANE. This was done, and on May 14 Miss BENTLEY was taken to her home in Madison, Connecticut, and services of a locksmith were obtained in New Haven who changed all the locks on Miss BENTLEY's doors. Later that evening her automobile, which WRIGHT had driven to New York, was returned to her by WRIGHT.

Of possible significance in this entire episode is the fact that while Miss BENTLEY was in New York recovering, JOHN WRIGHT took it upon himself to go to Miss BENTLEY's insurance agent in Madison and obtain some forms which he wanted her to fill out indicating that the injury she suffered was the result of an accident she had in her residence which was covered by an insurance policy she maintained. These forms were sent by WRIGHT to Dr. GROOPMAN, but Dr. GROOPMAN stated that he of course would not be a party to an action of this kind. Miss BENTLEY stated that she would not press this claim, and is going to make some excuse to the insurance company as to why she is not pressing it.

The following is a summary of the conversation had between USA MYLES LANE and JOHN WRIGHT in connection with the subpoena issued for his appearance before the Grand Jury:

Mr. LANE advised WRIGHT that he in turn had been advised by Miss BENTLEY that WRIGHT was harassing her and that on one occasion he had used physical violence on her. Mr. LANE asked WRIGHT for his explanation, and WRIGHT in some detail advised that he commenced working for Miss BENTLEY in August, 1951, and acted in the capacity of chauffeur and caretaker for her. He related that a week or so ago he met Miss BENTLEY at New Haven at about 6:18 p.m. one evening, and although it was dinner time Miss BENTLEY insisted on having several drinks. WRIGHT related that in his past experience, and because of statements made on this occasion by Miss BENTLEY, he knew that she had been using barbiturates and other drugs which she has on prescription. He stated they consumed \$13.50 worth of liquor in a respectable restaurant in New Haven. Upon leaving the restaurant, according to WRIGHT, Miss BENTLEY insisted on driving home, and in the course of this WRIGHT in the vicinity of Branford, Connecticut, became nervous over the manner in which Miss BENTLEY was operating the car and gradually brought the car over to the right hand side of the road and stopped. Thereafter he removed the keys and announced to Miss BENTLEY that he was going to drive the rest of the way. WRIGHT said Miss BENTLEY objected, and when he refused to return the keys to her she struck him across the face with her gloves, which were trimmed with buckles. WRIGHT stated that due possibly to the influence of the drinks he "blew his cork and hit her with a right cross." He said she fell out of the car and then he got out of the car,

crossed around, and assisted her back in. WRIGHT stated that he then drove on to Madison.

USA LANE then cautioned WRIGHT and advised him of the penalty he might suffer for interfering with a Government witness, and he agreed that he would terminate any further relationship with Miss BENTLEY. LANE cautioned him about discussing this incident with any individuals, and WRIGHT advised that there was no one in Madison, Connecticut, that knew of this particular incident.

WRIGHT was left in possession of a Grand Jury subpoena which was marked on a continuing basis, and was cautioned by Mr. LANE that should he, WRIGHT, be reported as having any association with BENTLEY in the future, he would be recalled and brought before a Grand Jury to explain his actions.

The following information was ascertained by the New Haven Office concerning JOHN BURGHARDT WRIGHT:

He was born December 12, 1897, at Worcester, Massachusetts. He was arrested by the Clinton, Connecticut, State Police on May 14, 1934. He was Connecticut State Police No. 1455PL. On this date he was arrested on two counts of breaking and entering. He was convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment which he served at the Hadam, Connecticut, County Jail.

On May 7, 1938, he was arrested by the Madison, Connecticut, Police Department (Madison PD No. 1554FP). He was arrested as a result of an indictment containing four counts charging him with (a) assault to kill; (b) aggravated assault; (c) plain assault; (d) breach of the peace. Counts 1 and 2 were dismissed, and on count 3 he was sentenced to serve a three month term and to pay a fine of \$150. He received a suspended sentence on count 4.

During the conference that was held in the office of Dr. GROOPMAN, Lady ARMSTRONG advised that Miss BENTLEY had had some differences of opinion with her Pastor, although Lady ARMSTRONG did not comment further on this.

It has been ascertained through Reverend THOMAS E. HAYES, Pastor of St. Margaret's Parish, Madison, Connecticut, that local gossip had it that JOHN WRIGHT was actually more than a caretaker in his employment by ELIZABETH BENTLEY. Father HAYES stated that he called Miss BENTLEY on the telephone and advised her of the rumors he had heard, and she informed him that these rumors had no basis in fact and that WRIGHT was merely a caretaker. Miss BENTLEY became rather upset because Father HAYES would give any credence of gossip of this type, and as a result she even to this date does not feel too kindly towards Father HAYES.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director.

3232696

The following FBI record, NUMBER

, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
S. Pol. Hartford, Conn.	John Burghardt Wright, #L-12265	5-14-34	2nd E. THEFT	6 mos. JAIL
U. S. Coast Guard New Britain, Conn.	John Burghardt Wright, #	applicant for ident. card 2-7-42		
SOS, War Dept.	John Burghardt Wright, #101 SAT	mechanic 10-20-43		
<p>134-435-58</p> <p><del>65-56402-3969</del></p> <p>ENCLOSURE</p> <p>99</p>				

Notations indicated by \* ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
Director

1232696

The following FBI record, NUMBER

, is furnished FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

CONTRIBUTOR OF FINGERPRINTS	NAME AND NUMBER	ARRESTED OR RECEIVED	CHARGE	DISPOSITION
Spec. Hartford, Conn.	John Burghardt Wright, #1-12265	5-14-34	B. and E. THEFT	6 mos. jail
U. S. Coast Guard New London, Conn.	John Burghardt Wright, #--	applicant for ident card 8-7-42		
U. S. Navy Dept.	John Burghardt Wright, #101 SAY	mechanic 10-20-43		

Notations indicated by \* ARE NOT BASED ON FINGERPRINTS IN FBI files. The notations are based on data furnished this Bureau concerning individuals of the same or similar names or aliases and ARE LISTED ONLY AS INVESTIGATIVE LEADS.

SAC, New York (65-14603)

May 22, 1952

Director, FBI (65-56402)

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

RECORDED - 135

134-435-58

Re NY 1st May 16, 1952.

A review of Bufiles under the name of John Burghardt Wright has been made without locating any information which could be identified with the individual in question. A search was made of the records of the Identification Division and the following information was located under FBI #3232696:

<u>Contributor of Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name and Number</u>	<u>Arrested or Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
St. Paul, Hartford, Conn.	John Burghardt Wright, #L-12265	5-14-34	B. and E. C-5-34 C. Mos. 1934	and theft
U. S. Coast Guard New London, Conn.	John Burghardt Wright, #--	applicant for ident. card		8-7-42
SOS, War Dept.	John Burghardt Wright, #101 SAY	mechanic		10-20-43

You will note that the above does not include the arrest of Wright on May 7, 1938, by the Police Department in Madison, Connecticut, (Madison Police Department #15547P) at which time he was charged with assault to kill, aggravated assault, plain assault, and breach of peace, and was sentenced to a three-month term of imprisonment and fined \$150.

cc: 2 - New Haven

RJL:GAS

COMM - FBI  
MAY 22 1952  
MAILED 28

RECEIVED  
FBI  
RECEIVED-NYH 4004  
MAY 25 4 24 PM '52

6 JUN 10 1952

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New Haven (65-14603)

DATE: July 10, 1952

SUBJECT: GREGORY ESPIONAGE - R Attention: Assistant Director A. H. Belmont

*Elizabeth Terrill Bentley*

On July 3, 1952, AUSA ROY COHN advised this office that he recently had a long conversation with ELIZABETH BENTLEY in connection with her testimony in the forthcoming REMINGTON case. At that time BENTLEY pointed out to COHN that she was in rather desperate financial straits. She indicated that it would be necessary for her to obtain some money in some fashion or other in order to carry her through the Summer, or, failing that, she would have to obtain a position of some kind. COHN gathered from Miss BENTLEY's conversation that she needed approximately \$1,000.

COHN stated that BENTLEY, of course, is one of the principal witnesses in the REMINGTON case, which is scheduled to be tried some time in the Fall of 1952, and he, COHN, is very anxious to keep her in a friendly frame of mind in order that her testimony might be used to its greatest advantage. COHN stated that he felt the best interests of the Government, particularly in the prosecution of the REMINGTON case, could be served by assisting Miss BENTLEY in any way that might be feasible.

COHN stated that he personally has assisted Miss BENTLEY in several instances. He pointed out one wherein Miss BENTLEY had consulted a tax expert in connection with the income tax she would have to pay on the proceeds of her book. This individual estimated that the tax would be near \$6,000. COHN related that he then sent her to his personal accountant, who was able to reduce this figure to around \$3,200. COHN stated that Miss BENTLEY did not have the money to pay this tax and he undertook to have her return filed and arrangements made to pay some of this tax on an instalment basis. He also stated that he was able to arrange for her to get \$25 a day as an expert witness when she appeared before the Grand Jury, Southern District of New York, whereas normally she would have merely got the regular witness fee. COHN advised that there is no provision in the United States Attorney's office whereby any further financial assistance can be given to her.

EXPEDITE PROCESSING

On July 8, 1952, Miss BENTLEY contacted the New York Office and reiterated the conversation she had had with ROY COHN as outlined above. However, no mention was made by Miss BENTLEY of any specific amount of money.

On the morning of July 10th, Miss BENTLEY personally appeared at the New York Office. She advised that on July 9th she had had a long consultation with her doctor, as a result of which he informed her that it is his opinion that she should sell her house in Connecticut and move to New York City. His reason, she said, was that her health was such that she could not handle the work of maintaining this house. She related that she also had the added burden of

TGS:RAA

cc - New Haven

RECORDED - 10

EX-3

20 JUL 11 1952

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

obtaining gainful employment and that if she was successful in obtaining work in or near her home it would be impossible to work and maintain her residence. She also declared that she is faced with a severe financial problem, indicating that she owes approximately \$600. This money includes doctor bills, household expenses, a past due fuel oil bill of \$100, and other miscellaneous bills, all of which total up to about \$600. She stated that she has only \$150 in cash at the present time and has no hope of obtaining any additional funds unless she obtains employment. She stated that it is her present plan to put her house up for sale immediately but that knowing the real estate conditions in Madison, Connecticut, she feels quite certain she will not be able to finally dispose of the property for a month or two. In connection with her obtaining employment, she stated that she has been in contact with Bishop FULTON SHEEN and Lady ARMSTRONG, the latter a prominent Catholic laywoman, but they have so far been unable to assist her. She also has contacted other people who have been friendly to her but to date has been unable to secure assistance from them in obtaining employment.

Miss BENTLEY stated that with the REMINGTON trial coming in the Fall and possibly other appearances she will have to make before Grand Juries and Congressional committees, she cannot take a job where she would not be able to get time off to make these Court and other appearances on behalf of the Government. She did state, however, that she was extremely interested in obtaining some type of research work in the literary, teaching or business fields, all of which she claimed she is qualified to handle. She declared that if she could obtain such employment she feels that she could carry out her commitments with the Government as a witness and still maintain a job of this kind. She explained that if she were successful in getting employment in the research field she could handle Court or other appearances and still keep her job by working nights and weekends on her regular job.

As the Bureau knows, Miss BENTLEY has been a most valuable informant for a period of over six years, and during that time we have not paid her nor has she asked for any compensation. The exception to this, of course, is the \$2,000 that was paid to her in the Spring of this year. As the Bureau recalls, this was in repayment of the \$2,000 which she turned over to agents of the New York Office in November of 1945, which money she had received from her Soviet principal in connection with her espionage activities.

The Bureau's attention is also called to the unfortunate predicament Miss BENTLEY found herself in in connection with the assault on her by her caretaker, JOHN BURGHARDT WRIGHT, in May of 1952. This, accompanied by the fact that according to Miss BENTLEY's physician she is going through the change of life, probably accounts for some of the recent difficulty being encountered in handling this informant.

The agents who are familiar with Miss BENTLEY and who have been in contact with her over the years have gained the definite impression that Miss BENTLEY is rather improvident. It is not felt that any lump sum payment to Miss BENTLEY is wise at this time.

TGS:RAA  
65-14603

All things considered, however, it is felt that because of Miss BENTLEY's testimony in the REMINGTON case and her possible appearances before Grand Juries and of her giving testimony in future Bureau cases, coupled with her limited possibility of steady employment, we do owe her some debt. In view of this, it is being suggested that the Bureau authorize a payment of \$50 a week on a weekly basis for a period of approximately three months or until such time as disposition is made of the REMINGTON case.

Director, FBI

July 10, 1952

SAC, New York (65-14603)

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Attention: Assistant Director A.H. Belmont

On July 3, 1952 AUSA ROY COHN advised this office that he recently had a long conversation with ELIZABETH BENTLEY in connection with her testimony in the forthcoming REMINGTON case. At that time BENTLEY pointed out to COHN that she was in rather desperate financial straits. She indicated that it would be necessary for her to obtain some money in some fashion or other in order to carry her through the Summer, or, failing that, she would have to obtain a position of some kind. COHN gathered from Miss BENTLEY's conversation that she needed approximately \$1,000.

COHN stated that BENTLEY, of course, is one of the principal witnesses in the REMINGTON case, which is scheduled to be tried some time in the Fall of 1952, and he, COHN, is very anxious to keep her in a friendly frame of mind in order that her testimony might be used to its greatest advantage. COHN stated that he felt the best interests of the Government, particularly in the prosecution of the REMINGTON case, could be served by assisting Miss BENTLEY in any way that might be feasible.

COHN stated that he personally has assisted Miss BENTLEY in several instances. He pointed out one wherein Miss BENTLEY had consulted a tax expert in connection with the income tax she would have to pay on the proceeds of her book. This individual estimated that the tax would be near \$6,000. COHN related that he then sent her to his personal accountant, who was able to reduce this figure to around \$3,200. COHN stated that Miss BENTLEY did not have the money to pay this tax and he undertook to have her return filed and arrangements made to pay some of this tax on an instalment basis. He also stated that he was able to arrange for her to get \$25 a day as an expert witness when she appeared before the Grand Jury, Southern District of New York, whereas normally she would have merely got the regular witness fee. COHN advised that there is no provision in the United States Attorney's office whereby any further financial assistance can be given to her.

On July 8, 1952, Miss BENTLEY contacted the New York Office and reiterated the conversation she had had with ROY COHN as outlined above. However, no mention was made by Miss BENTLEY of any specific amount of money.

On the morning of July 10th, Miss BENTLEY personally appeared at the New York Office. She advised that on July 9th she had had a long consultation with her doctor, as a result of which he informed her that it is his opinion that she should sell her house in Connecticut and move to New York City. His reason, she said, was that her health was such that she could not handle the work of maintaining this house. She related she also had the added burden of obtaining gainful employment.

TGS:RAA cc- New Haven

NOT RECORDED  
150 JUL 11 1952

ORIGINAL FILED

MR. JOHNSON - 6126  
MR. J. D. DONOHUE

SAC, New York (65-14503)

July 16, 1952

RECORDED - 120 Director, FBI (65-56402)

ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

134-435-59  
PERSONAL ATTENTION -  
STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Based upon the recommendation in your memorandum of July 10, 1952, authorization is granted to pay Bentley \$50 a week, effective July 15, 1952, for a period of three months. Thereafter, your recommendations should be submitted relative to any further payments.

RJL:jl  
g

DECLASSIFIED BY 5886

CH 2/23/78

JUL 17 10 40 AM '52  
RECEIVED PLANNING ROOM  
F B I  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF declass  
DATE 7/24/78 AV/ED

25 JUL 11 11 13 AM '52

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MAILED 4

JUL 17 1952

COMM-FBI

AUG 3 1952

J.D. Donohue

UNRECORDED - COPIED IN



TGS:RAA  
65-14603

New York, N. Y.

that any lump sum payment to Miss BENTLEY is wise at this time.

All things considered, however, it is felt that because of Miss BENTLEY's testimony in the REMINGTON case and her possible appearances before Grand Juries and of her giving testimony in future Bureau cases, coupled with her limited possibility of steady employment, we do owe her some debt. In view of this, it is being suggested that the Bureau authorized a payment of \$50 a week on a weekly basis for a period of approximately three months or until such time as disposition is made of the REMINGTON case.

ment and that if she was successful in obtaining work in or near her home it would be impossible to work and maintain her residence. She also declared that she is faced with a severe financial problem, indicating that she owes approximately \$600. This money includes doctor bills, household expenses, a past due fuel oil bill of \$100, and other miscellaneous bills, all of which total up to about \$600. She stated that she has only \$150 in cash at the present time and has no hope of obtaining any additional funds unless she obtains employment. She stated that it is her present plan to put her house up for sale immediately but that knowing the real estate conditions in Madison, Connecticut, she feels quite certain she will not be able to finally dispose of the property for a month or two. In connection with her obtaining employment, she stated that she has been in contact with Bishop FULTON GREEN and Lady ARMSTRONG, the latter a prominent Catholic laywoman, but they have so far been unable to assist her. She also contacted other people who have been friendly to her but to date has been unable to secure assistance from them in obtaining employment.

Miss BENTLEY stated that with the REMINGTON trial coming in the Fall and possibly other appearances she will have to make before Grand Juries and Congressional committees, she cannot take a job where she would not be able to get time off to make these Court and other appearances on behalf of the Government. She did state, however, that she was extremely interested in obtaining some type of research work in the literary, teaching or business fields, all of which she claimed she is qualified to handle. She declared that if she could obtain such employment she feels that she could carry out her commitments with the Government as a witness and still maintain a job of this kind. She explained that if she were successful in getting employment in the research field she could hand Court or other appearances and still keep her job by working nights and weekends on her regular job.

As the Bureau knows, Miss BENTLEY has been a most valuable informant for a period of over six years, and during that time we have not paid her nor has she asked for any compensation. The exception to this, of course, is the \$2,000 that was paid to her in the Spring of this year. As the Bureau recalls, this was in repayment of the \$2,000 which she turned over to agents of the New York Office in November of 1945, which money she had received from her Soviet principal in connection with her espionage activities.

The Bureau's attention is also called to the unfortunate predicament Miss BENTLEY found herself in in connection with the assault on her by her caretaker, JOHN BURGHARDT WRIGHT, in May of 1952. This, accompanied by the fact that according to Miss BENTLEY's physician she is going through the change of life, probably accounts for some of the recent difficulty being encountered in handling this informant.

The agents who are familiar with Miss BENTLEY and who have been in contact with her over the years have gained the definite impression that Miss BENTLEY is rather imprudent. It is not felt

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. BELMONT

DATE: July 16, 1952

FROM : W. A. BRANTLEY

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCEPURPOSE: *RE: BENTLEY, ELIZABETH T.*

The New York Office has recommended that Elizabeth Bentley be paid \$50 a week as a confidential source of their office. Bentley, who is pressed financially, has been a valuable informant and source of information over the past 6 1/2 years, and it is anticipated she will continue to provide reliable and valuable information. A memorandum is attached, authorizing the New York Office to pay her \$50 a week for a three-month period, effective July 15, 1952.

## DETAILS:

In the attached memorandum dated July 10, 1952, from the New York Office, it was pointed out that Elizabeth Bentley has contacted both the New York Office and Assistant U. S. Attorney Roy Cohn regarding her rather desperate financial straits. She indicated it would be necessary for her to obtain money in some fashion in order to carry her through the summer, and she indicated she needed about \$1,000.

Bentley is one of the principal witnesses in the Remington case which will be tried during the fall of 1952. As you know, she has frequently appeared in the past in connection with other trials and before Federal Grand Juries and Congressional Committees. This makes it difficult for her to obtain steady employment and at the same time make various appearances for the government.

Assistant U. S. Attorney Cohn has been able to give her some assistance, arranging to get her \$25 a day as an expert witness, and helping her in adjusting, through his personal accountant, her income tax situation.

You will recall that Bentley has been contacted by our agents on almost a steady basis since November, 1945. During this period, she has never been reimbursed as an informant or source of information, and has never asked for any money with the exception that in the spring of this year, we made arrangements for her to get the \$2,000 which she had received from her Soviet espionage superior and which she had turned over to us. It is contemplated that it will be necessary for our agents to continue contacting Elizabeth Bentley in view of the fact that we are continuing our efforts to identify certain unknown subjects with whom she had contact and because we are attempting to identify documents abstracted by Soviet agents in the government delivered to Bentley for transmittal to the Soviet Union. We also contact her periodically

BRL:JL  
65-50402

58 AUG 5 1952

RECORDED - 75

JUL 24 1952

5-100-1000

In order to determine whether she can furnish information concerning various persons who are of interest to us in our investigation of Soviet espionage.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the fact that Bentley has been a valuable informant and source of information over the past 6½ years, and it is anticipated she will continue to provide reliable and valuable information, there is attached a memorandum to the New York Office, authorizing that she be paid \$50 a week for a period of three months, effective July 15, 1952.

OK  
H.  
✓

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. LADD

DATE: August 29, 1952

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

SAC Joseph Casper called from New Haven at approximately 4:45 pm, August 29, 1952, to advise that the Connecticut State Police, Westbrook Barracks, had contacted him telephonically to advise that Elizabeth Bentley is under arrest by the Connecticut State Police for hit and run driving. Apparently, Miss Bentley was taking someone to the railroad station and hit another car, causing very little damage. However, she did not stop. The owner of the other car made out a complaint, as a result of which she was arrested. According to the Police, originally she admitted that she had hit the other car but was in a hurry to get to the railroad station and, therefore, did not stop. She later denied to the Police that she had hit the other car. Miss Bentley got on the telephone after the police had called Casper and said that she had been driving from her home to the railroad station to put some friends on the train; that she had cut in rather sharply but did not know she had hit the other car; that no one had tooted the horn at her; and she had proceeded to the railroad station. She wanted Mr. Casper to take action on her behalf. He suggested she get an attorney, but she refused. She insisted that something be done for her, whereupon Casper advised her there was nothing he could do and that she should get an attorney.

Mr. Casper later talked to the Lieutenant of Police and advised him of Bentley's identity. The Lieutenant said he guessed the case would cause publicity; therefore, he was going to immediately contact Commissioner Hickey. He inquired whether Casper wanted to make any recommendation. Casper told him to handle the matter the same as he would any other case; that he had no recommendation whatsoever to make.

I told Casper to send a teletype with the details of this matter to the Bureau and to New York, and further, to call New York and advise them of this incident in order that New York could inform the United States Attorney, as Bentley is a potential witness in the Remington case to be re-tried in the near future. I told him to tell New York that as far as the Bureau's concerned, we could take no action to assist Bentley, and if the United States Attorney took any action, it was on his own initiative and responsibility.

RECORDED - 68

SEP 8 1952

38 SEP 16 1952

EX 73

At 5:30 p.m. Supervisor Tom Spencer called me from New York to advise that New Haven had furnished him this information and that he had furnished it in turn to Assistant United States Attorney Roy Cohn. Cohn stated that in view of the Remington case he thought some action should be taken. Spencer told him that the Bureau could not take any action and that any action that Cohn took would be on his own initiative and responsibility. Cohn thereupon called Commissioner Hickey and advised him that he felt two things should be done, first, that the matter should be kept quiet and out of the newspapers and second, that Hickey should arrange to get her released from jail as soon as possible.

At 6:00 p.m. Mr. Spencer advised that Mr. Cohn had again called him. Commissioner Hickey told Cohn that inasmuch as the property damage was only \$25, Hickey had called the prosecuting official in Connecticut who had waived bond and consequently Bentley has been released. Her hearing is set for September 6. Hickey further advised Cohn that he would make every attempt to keep this matter quiet so that it would not reach the press.

Mr. Spencer stressed the fact that any action taken in this matter has been by Cohn and that Cohn fully understands that the Bureau had not and was not recommending any action. Mr. Spencer is sending in a letter with full details on this.

The handling of this matter by FBI was proper. ✓

AUG 29 1952

TELETYPE

6-25 PM

8-29-52

Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

FBI NEW HAVEN

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW YORK

ATTENTION ASST. DIRECTOR

A. BELMONT

URGENT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, ESPIONAGE - R. REMY TELEPHONE CALL TODAY.  
BENTLEY ARRESTED TODAY BY CONN. STATE POLICE ON CHARGE OF HIT AND  
RUN. BENTLEY INFORMED COMMANDING OFFICER, WESTBROOK BARRACKS, CONN.  
STATE POLICE SHE WAS WORKING FOR THE FBI AND DESIRED TO COMMUNICATE  
WITH ME. BENTLEY CALLED NHO ADVISING THAT SHE CUT TOO CLOSE IN FRONT  
OF CAR DRIVEN BY VICTIM BUT DID NOT HIT VICTIM-S CAR, STATED HER LICENSE  
WAS TO BE REVOKED AND SHE WAS BEING HELD. SHE ASKED WHAT TO DO.  
BENTLEY WAS ADVISED TO GET AN ATTORNEY AND THAT THIS WAS A MATTER  
SHE WOULD HAVE TO HANDLE THROUGH LEGAL COUNSEL. BENTLEY STATED SHE  
REFUSED TO SEEK COUNSEL AND WAS GOING TO LEAVE THE STATE OF CONN.  
AND MOVE TO NY. BENTLEY SOUNDED VERY UPSET AND NERVOUS. LT. FRANCIS  
MANGAN, COMMANDING OFFICER, ADVISED BENTLEY ADMITTED HITTING CAR BUT  
LEFT SCENE BECAUSE SHE WAS TAKING LADY ARMSTRONG TO THE RAILROAD  
STATION. LATER BENTLEY DENIED THIS. BENTLEY WAS ACCOMPANIED BY TWO  
UNIDENTIFIED CHILDREN. BENTLEY REFUSED TO IDENTIFY TO STATE POLICE  
OTHER OCCUPANTS OF HER CAR. BENTLEY BEING DETAINED BY CONN. STATE  
POLICE UNTIL SHE POSTS BOND WHICH MOST PROBABLY WILL BE ONE HUNDRED  
DOLLARS. CASE SET FOR COURT, WESTBROOK, CONN., SEPT. SIXTH. BENTLEY

68 SEP 29 1952

RECORDED-114

EX-25

SEP 9 1952

134-435-62

165-56110-3985

*[Handwritten signature]*

PAGE TWO

VERY UNCOOPERATIVE WITH STATE POLICE AND IN CONSTANT COMPANY OF STATE POLICE WOMAN. ESTIMATED DAMAGE TO VICTIM-S CAR TWENTY DOLLARS. NO ONE HURT IN VICTIM-S AUTOMOBILE. NH HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO STATE POLICE THAT THIS BUREAU IN NO WAY DESIRES TO INTERVENE IN THEIR HANDLING OF THIS CASE. NY ADVISED BY TELEPHONE OF ABOVE FACTS AND REQUESTED TO FURNISH SAME TO U.S. ATTORNEY. BUREAU AND NY WILL BE ADVISED OF FINAL OUTCOME.

CASPER

END

NY ADVISED

WA HOLD PLS

6-28PM OK FBI WA AS

CO. MR. WELMONT  
AND SUPERVISOR  
DOM. INTEL. DIVISION



AUG 29 1952

TELETYPE

8-29-52

6-23 PM

FBI NEW HAVEN

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, NEW YORK

ATTENTION ASST. DIR. FOR

A. BELMONT

URGENT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, ESPIONAGE - R. RENEY TELEPHONE CALL TODAY.  
BENTLEY ARRESTED TODAY BY CONN. STATE POLICE ON CHARGE OF HIT AND  
RUN. BENTLEY INFORMED COMMANDING OFFICER, WESTBROOK BARRACKS, CONN.  
STATE POLICE SHE WAS WORKING FOR THE FBI AND DESIRED TO COMMUNICATE  
WITH ME. BENTLEY CALLED WHO ADVISING THAT SHE CUT TOO CLOSE IN FRONT  
OF CAR DRIVEN BY VICTIM BUT DID NOT HIT VICTIM'S CAR, STATED HER LICENSE  
WAS TO BE REVOKED AND SHE WAS BEING HELD. SHE ASKED WHAT TO DO.  
BENTLEY WAS ADVISED TO GET AN ATTORNEY AND THAT THIS WAS A MATTER  
SHE WOULD HAVE TO HANDLE THROUGH LEGAL COUNSEL. BENTLEY STATED SHE  
REFUSED TO SEEK COUNSEL AND WAS GOING TO LEAVE THE STATE OF CONN.  
AND MOVE TO NY. BENTLEY SOUNDED VERY UPSET AND NERVOUS. LT. FRANCIS  
MANGAN, COMMANDING OFFICER, ADVISED BENTLEY ADMITTED HITTING CAR BUT  
LEFT SCENE BECAUSE SHE WAS TAKING LADY ARMSTRONG TO THE RAILROAD  
STATION. LATER BENTLEY DENIED THIS. BENTLEY WAS ACCOMPANIED BY TWO  
UNIDENTIFIED CHILDREN. BENTLEY REFUSED TO IDENTIFY TO STATE POLICE'S  
OTHER OCCUPANTS OF HER CAR. BENTLEY BEING DETAINED BY CONN. STATE  
POLICE UNTIL SHE POSTS BOND WHICH MOST PROBABLY WILL BE ONE HUNDRED  
DOLLARS. CASE SET FOR COURT, WESTBROOK, CONN. SEPT. SIXTH. BENTLEY

END OF PAGE ONE

66 SEP 29 1952

65-56402-3985

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

PAGE TWO

VERY UNCOOPERATIVE WITH STATE POLICE AND IN CONSTANT COMPANY OF STATE POLICE WOMAN. ESTIMATED DAMAGE TO VICTIM-S CAR TWENTY DOLLARS. NO ONE HURT IN VICTIM-S AUTOMOBILE. NH HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO STATE POLICE THAT THIS BUREAU IN NO WAY DESIRES TO INTERVENE IN THEIR HANDLING OF THIS CASE. NY ADVISED BY TELEPHONE OF ABOVE FACTS AND REQUESTED TO FURNISH SAME TO U.S. ATTORNEY. BUREAU AND NY WILL BE ADVISED OF FINAL OUTCOME.

CASPER

END

NY ADVISED

WA HOLD PLS

6-28PM OK FBI WA AS

8

~~ORIGINAL - DIRECTOR~~

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: September 4, 1952

W. H. Miller  
re Remington

There follows a resume of two incidents which happened to Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY one on August 29, 1952, and one on August 30, 1952.

On the afternoon of August 29, 1952, SAC Joseph Casper of the New Haven Office called. He related that he had just received information from a Connecticut State Trooper that Miss BENTLEY had been arrested for leaving the scene of an accident and that she was presently incarcerated at the Westbrook Barracks, just east of Madison, Connecticut.

It appears that on the afternoon of August 29, 1952, Miss BENTLEY was driving Lady ARMSTRONG (whose identity is known to the Bureau) and two children from BENTLEY's home to the New Haven Railroad Station. En route she apparently became involved in a very slight accident with another automobile. BENTLEY claims that she did not believe she actually hit the automobile being driven by ROSARIO DERMARO, of 249 William Street, Middletown, Connecticut. In any event, DERMARO swore out a complaint against BENTLEY indicating that she had left the scene of an accident. BENTLEY's license number was radioed to the Connecticut State Troopers and Miss BENTLEY was apprehended while she was returning from New Haven to her home in Madison.

From the story related by the Connecticut State Trooper to SAC Casper, it appears that BENTLEY first admitted the facts and later denied them, and subsequently became somewhat difficult to handle. It also appears that Miss BENTLEY intimated in some fashion or other that she had been, or was, working for the FBI. It was on this latter statement that Miss BENTLEY was allowed to make a phone call to the New Haven Office.

This information was telephonically communicated to Assistant Director A. H. Belmont, who advised Mr. Casper to inform the New York Office that they were to immediately communicate with the United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, and advise him of the facts in this case, and to also indicate that this Bureau intended to take no action with regard to BENTLEY's arrest.

This information was immediately relayed to AUSA ROY COHN. COHN advised that he felt he should do something both for the purpose of getting BENTLEY out of jail and attempting to keep the story of her arrest out of the newspapers. He felt that this should be done in view of the fact that BENTLEY would appear as an important witness in the coming REMINGTON trial. Mr. COHN was again advised that this office intended to take no action in the matter but that if in his judgment he felt the United States Attorney's office should take some action, of course this office would not interfere.

TGS:RAA

1 - New Haven

RECORDED

SEP 5 1952

6618

1952

74-1344

5-R

Subsequently Mr. COHN called the New York Office and advised that he had gotten a call through to Commissioner EDWARD HICKEY of the Connecticut State Police and had informed the latter that he was most desirous of having two things accomplished--one, to have Miss BENTLEY immediately released from jail; and secondly, to curtail, if possible, any news reports of her arrest. Mr. COHN stated that he pointed out to Mr. HICKEY the value of Miss BENTLEY as a witness in previous cases as well as in the coming REMINGTON case. COHN advised that Commissioner HICKEY told him he would do what he could and would advise COHN of the results.

A subsequent call was received from Mr. COHN in which he stated that Commissioner HICKEY had informed him that the regulations concerning persons leaving the scene of an accident necessitated the posting of bond. However, in cases where the damage was slight and no personal injury was involved, the prosecuting attorney for the particular county involved could, in his discretion, release an individual without bond. Mr. HICKEY stated that he had contacted the appropriate prosecuting attorney and this individual had agreed to release Miss BENTLEY without bond. As a matter of fact, Mr. HICKEY stated that Miss BENTLEY had been released from the Westbrook Barracks at approximately 5:00 p.m. on August 29. Mr. HICKEY also told Mr. COHN that he would make every effort to see that no press release was made in connection with Miss BENTLEY's arrest.

Assistant Director Belmont was informed telephonically of the fact that COHN had been in contact with Commissioner HICKEY and the facts concerning Miss BENTLEY's release from jail.

On August 31, 1952, Miss BENTLEY called this office and advised she had been involved in a second accident on August 30, 1952. The details, obtained subsequently from Miss BENTLEY, are as follows:

On the afternoon of August 30, 1952, she drove to Clinton, Connecticut, and entered a parking lot in the rear of a shopping center. A truck owned and operated by WILLIAM HOFFMAN, 229 Dixwell Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut, had preceded Miss BENTLEY into the parking area and had entered a vacant parking space. Miss BENTLEY drove behind the truck and was momentarily stopped by traffic and a signal light when the HOFFMAN truck backed out of its space and struck the side of Miss BENTLEY's car. HOFFMAN told BENTLEY he was poor, had a sick wife and no liability insurance. At his suggestion she took her car to a nearby garage where damage was estimated at \$150. The auto repair man questioned HOFFMAN's financial responsibility and suggested BENTLEY notify CARL WEISS, Chief of Police of Clinton, who is acquainted with Miss BENTLEY. WEISS came to the scene, reviewed the facts and advised Miss BENTLEY that he had no jurisdiction since the accident occurred on private property. Miss BENTLEY states her local insurance agent suggested that she place a lien or other legal encumbrance on HOFFMAN's truck since she does not have collision insurance and HOFFMAN seems to lack financial responsibility. Miss BENTLEY states she discussed the matter with JOHN KIDNEY, a local attorney, who appeared uncertain as to what action he could take.

NY 65-14603

On September 3, 1952, AUSA Roy Cohn advised he had communicated with TOM DODD, former USA in Hartford, Connecticut, and the latter was then conferring with BENTLEY.

On September 4, 1952, BENTLEY advised this office that after discussing her situations with DODD the latter had suggested that she leave matters in the hands of JOHN KIDNEY, known to him as a responsible and capable attorney.

The above information is being furnished for the information of the Bureau and New Haven.

Director, FBI

September 4, 1952

SAC, New York (65-14603)

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

There follows a resume of two incidents which happened to Miss ELIZABETH BENTLEY--one on August 29, 1952, and one on August 30, 1952.

On the afternoon of August 29, 1952, SAC Joseph Casper of the New Haven Office called. He related that he had just received information from a Connecticut State Trooper that Miss BENTLEY had been arrested for leaving the scene of an accident and that she was presently incarcerated at the Westbrook Barracks, just east of Madison, Connecticut.

It appears that on the afternoon of August 29, 1952, Miss BENTLEY was driving Lady ARMSTRONG (whose identity is known to the Bureau) and two children from BENTLEY's home to the New Haven Railroad Station. En route she apparently became involved in a very slight accident with another automobile. BENTLEY claims that she did not believe she actually hit the automobile being driven by ROSARIO DEFMARO, of 249 William Street, Middletown, Connecticut. In any event, DEFMARO swore out a complaint against BENTLEY indicating that she had left the scene of an accident. BENTLEY's license number was radioed to the Connecticut State Troopers and Miss BENTLEY was apprehended while she was returning from New Haven to her home in Madison.

From the story related by the Connecticut State Trooper to SAC Casper, it appears that BENTLEY first admitted the facts and later denied them, and subsequently became somewhat difficult to handle. It also appears that Miss BENTLEY intimated in some fashion or other that she had been, or was, working for the FBI. It was on this latter statement that Miss BENTLEY was allowed to make a phone call to the New Haven Office.

This information was telephonically communicated to Assistant Director A. H. Belmont, who advised Mr. Casper to inform the New York Office that they were to immediately communicate with the United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, and advise him of the facts in this case, and to also indicate that this Bureau intended to take no action with regard to BENTLEY's arrest.

This information was immediately relayed to AUSA ROY COHN. COHN advised that he felt he should do something both for the purpose of getting BENTLEY out of jail and attempting to keep the story of her arrest out of the newspapers. He felt that this should be done in view of the fact that BENTLEY would appear as an important witness in the coming REMINGTON trial. Mr. COHN was again advised that this office intended to take no action in the matter but that if in his judgment he felt the United States Attorney's office should take some action, of course this office would not interfere.

TGS:RAA

Subsequently Mr. COHN called the New York Office and advised that he had gotten a call through to Commissioner EDWARD HICKEY of the Connecticut State Police and had informed the latter that he was most desirous of having two things accomplished--one, to have Miss BENTLEY immediately released from jail; and secondly, to curtail, if possible, any news reports of her arrest. Mr. COHN stated that he pointed out to Mr. HICKEY the value of Miss BENTLEY as a witness in previous cases as well as in the coming REMINGTON case. COHN advised that Commissioner HICKEY told him he would do what he could and would advise COHN of the results.

A subsequent call was received from Mr. COHN in which he stated that Commissioner HICKEY had informed him that the regulations concerning persons leaving the scene of an accident necessitated the posting of bond. However, in cases where the damage was slight and no personal injury was involved, the prosecuting attorney for the particular county involved could, in his discretion, release an individual without bond. Mr. HICKEY stated that he had contacted the appropriate prosecuting attorney and this individual had agreed to release Miss BENTLEY without bond. As a matter of fact, Mr. HICKEY stated that Miss BENTLEY had been released from the Westbrook Barracks at approximately 5:00 p.m. on August 29. Mr. HICKEY also told Mr. COHN that he would make every effort to see that no press release was made in connection with Miss BENTLEY's arrest.

Assistant Director Belmont was informed telephonically of the fact that COHN had been in contact with Commissioner HICKEY and the facts concerning Miss BENTLEY's release from jail.

On August 31, 1952, Miss BENTLEY called this office and advised she had been involved in a second accident on August 30, 1952. The details, obtained subsequently from Miss BENTLEY, are as follows:

On the afternoon of August 30, 1952, she drove to Clinton, Connecticut, and entered a parking lot in the rear of a shopping center. A truck owned and operated by WILLIAM HOFFMAN, 229 Dixwell Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut, had preceded Miss BENTLEY into the parking area and had entered a vacant parking space. Miss BENTLEY drove behind the truck and was momentarily stopped by traffic and a signal light when the HOFFMAN truck backed out of its space and struck the side of Miss BENTLEY's car. HOFFMAN told BENTLEY he was poor, had a sick wife and no liability insurance. At his suggestion she took her car to a nearby garage where damage was estimated at \$150. The auto repair man questioned HOFFMAN's financial responsibility and suggested BENTLEY notify CARL WEISS, Chief of Police of Clinton, who is acquainted with Miss BENTLEY. WEISS came to the scene, reviewed the facts and advised Miss BENTLEY that he had no jurisdiction since the accident occurred on private property. Miss BENTLEY states her local insurance agent suggested that she place a lien or other legal encumbrance on HOFFMAN's truck since she does not have collision insurance and HOFFMAN seems to lack financial responsibility. Miss BENTLEY states she discussed the matter with JOHN KIDNEY, a local attorney, who appeared uncertain as to what action he could take.

NY 65-14603

On September 3, 1952, AUSA Roy Cohn advised he had communicated with TOM DODD, former USA in Hartford, Connecticut, and the latter was then conferring with BENTLEY.

On September 4, 1952, BENTLEY advised this office that after discussing her situations with DODD the latter had suggested that she leave matters in the hands of JOHN KIDNEY, known to him as a responsible and capable attorney.

The above information is being furnished for the information of the Bureau and New Haven.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 16 1952

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

*Handwritten:* 134-435-64  
65-564-12  
SEP 16 1952  
EX-164  
V. R. D. 100

FBI NEW HAVEN

9-6-52

11-31 AM

AS

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

ELIZABETH BENTLEY, ESPIONAGE R. RE NH TEL AUGUST TWENTY-NINE LAST.

BENTLEY AUTO CASE AT MADISON, CONN. CONTINUED TO SEPT. TWENTY NEXT.

CASPER

END

ACK AND HOLD PLS

1132 AM OK FBI WA ELR

RECORDED - 99

SEP 16 1952

EX-164

166

58 SEP 22 1952

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BEAMONT  
 FROM : MR. C. E. HENNELLY  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY

DATE: September 22, 1952

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Tom McAndrews called from New York on the morning of September 22. He advised that on Sunday, September 21, Elizabeth Bentley had called the New York Office from her home in Madison, Connecticut. She stated she was ill and needed a physician. She said she wanted to get into New York because her doctor there was the only one who could relieve her condition. Two Agents from New York picked up Bentley and took her into New York and left her at the Prince George Hotel, after calling Dr. Samuel Groopman, her physician, at her request, and making arrangements for him to visit her.

McAndrews stated it was apparent to the Agents that Bentley had been drinking and it is the opinion of the Agents, based on past knowledge of Bentley and her conversations on September 21, that she may be slipping mentally.

As you know, Bentley is scheduled to be a witness in the Remington trial and, of course, is a potential witness in a number of cases presently being handled by the Bureau. McAndrews requested authority to advise Special Assistant to the Attorney General Roy Cohn, who has in the past been assigned to handle Bentley in her appearances before the courts in New York, and also Myles Lane, the U. S. Attorney, as to developments on September 21.

ACTION:

I told Supervisor McAndrews to go ahead and notify Cohn and Lane. I told him he should maintain contact with the U. S. Attorney's office to determine what, if anything, they do about this present situation of Bentley's, and to keep the Bureau advised of developments.

134-435-65

CEH:LL

RECORDED - 70  
INDEXED - 70

SEP 23 1952

7 OCT - 8 1952

44-73

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9/26/52

FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)

SUBJECT: GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

14-1

Re NY letters to Bureau 7/10/52, 9/4/52 and Bulet  
7/16/52.

As set out in New York letter of 7/10/52, ELIZABETH BENTLEY had incurred debts of approximately \$600 and had requested assistance from AUSA COHN of the SDNY to help her pay these debts. Upon receipt of my letter 7/10/52, the Bureau authorized payment of \$50 per week to Miss BENTLEY. These payments have been made regularly to her. However, it appears that she has been using this money merely for her current living expenses and has made no substantial effort to liquidate any of the above mentioned debts.

In this regard, it might be noted that Mr. COHN, in requesting that Bureau lend some financial assistance to Miss BENTLEY, left the impression in her mind that she was to receive a lump sum payment of approximately \$1,000. As is indicated in my letter of July 10, it was considered unwise to make a lump sum payment to Miss BENTLEY inasmuch as it is felt that she was improvident and a lump sum payment would be quickly spent by her and she would again make demands on Mr. COHN and the Bureau for additional funds.

14-1

During the time that she has been receiving the \$50 payments, Miss BENTLEY has been constantly referring to the supposed lump sum payment which she believed was to be forthcoming from Mr. COHN, and has, on various occasions, been in contact with Mr. COHN in an effort to obtain payment of this lump sum. No promise of any lump sum of any amount has been made to BENTLEY by this office.

On September 11, 1952, she had an interview with Mr. COHN and he requested her to submit to him an itemized list of her indebtedness. This was not forthcoming from Miss BENTLEY.

Following a series of events, the nature of which will be set forth below, Miss BENTLEY has been in New York City for the past several days. She again contacted Mr. COHN on 9/23/52 and again made demands of him that a lump sum payment be made to her in order that she might pay the aforementioned debts.

10/6/52  
Memo. for Mr. Belmont  
from Mr. [unclear]  
CE  
63 NOV 1952

LOG:JR

RECORDED-25  
10 SEP 29 1952

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

Following this conversation with Mr. COHN, Miss BENTLEY contacted Special Agent GALLAHER and advised him that Mr. COHN had indicated to her that the matter would be taken care of.

On 9/25/52, Mr. COHN contacted SA LESTER O. GALLAHER and asked if the Bureau could make arrangements for a lump sum payment of \$200 to Miss BENTLEY together with advance of about \$600 on the \$50 weekly payments she has been receiving. He was advised that there was considerable doubt as to the possibility of this. On the same date Miss BENTLEY contacted SA GALLAHER, having been unable to reach Mr. COHN, and reiterated that she urgently needed the lump payment which she believes was promised to her by Mr. COHN in order that she could satisfy her creditors, and she felt that this, together with the \$50 weekly payments, would give her the necessary peace of mind so that she would be a satisfactory witness in the forthcoming retrial of WILLIAM REMINGTON.

At that time she furnished the following itemized list of her indebtedness:

Jolly's Drug Store, Madison, Conn.	\$216.00
Dr. SAMUEL GROOPMAN	230.00 (app.)
Socony Gas Co. for fuel, oil and gas	18.70
PRIMOFF & PRIMOFF, Accountants (income tax advice)	125.00
Electric Bill	18.00
Milk bill	4.16
Telephone bill	10.00 (or more)
Mortgage and Tax payments	51.00 (monthly)
	\$672.86

In addition she advised she owes \$3800 in income taxes, for which she has made no demands. She advised that so far she has been engaged for five lectures during the forthcoming winter for which she is to be paid \$300 each. She stated that LADY ARMSTRONG, (whose identity is known to the Bureau) is attempting to obtain employment for her at Mt. St. Vincent's and Manhattanville, both of which are Catholic girls' schools. If she obtains this employment, the work will consist of a series of lectures at both schools which would require that she stay in New York City three or four days during each week and would permit her to return to her residence in Madison, Conn., over week-ends. She stated that as yet she has received no indication as to the amount of salary she would be paid for this work.

Letter to Director

NY 65-14603

As set forth in my letter of 9/4/52, Miss BENTLEY had been involved in two incidents involving the use of her automobile. The following subsequent events have occurred.

On 9/1/52, arrangements were made with Miss BENTLEY for an interview at her residence at Madison, Conn., to be had on 9/18/52, at which time Special Agents FRANCIS W. ZANGLE, LESTER O. GALLAHER and Colonel WILLIAM WOOD of CIA were to interview her. On 9/17/52, she telephonically advised SA GALLAHER that she had been in an automobile accident during the evening of 9/15/52, and had sustained a number of bruises, was knocked unconscious for a short time and that her car was a total wreck. She said that a "drunken driver" was coming down the middle of the road toward her and in order to avoid a collision she had swerved to the left and hit a boulder. She said she was removed from her car by three local men who assisted her in getting home and was later driven to the home of TOM DODD, former AUSA in Hartford, Conn., by one of these men. Mr. DODD has been assisting her in connection with the hit-run charges previously mentioned in reference letter of 9/4/52.

During the aforementioned telephone conversation, Miss BENTLEY requested that she be permitted to ride back to New York with the agents in order that she might contact her physician, Dr. SAMUEL GROOPMAN, for examination and treatment. During this conversation, she seemed somewhat hysterical, wept at least once and was somewhat incoherent as to what had occurred. She said she had not yet obtained medical attention and was beginning to feel emotional reaction to the shock of the accident. No commitments were made to her concerning the trip back to N. Y.

After this matter was discussed, it was decided to request her to come to New York by train, which she agreed to do, advising the agents that she would arrive at 9:35 a.m. on the 18th. However, she did not appear at the agreed time and was contacted by telephone at her residence. She stated that she had overslept and had therefore missed her train. The agents thereupon drove to Madison with Colonel WOOD for the interview. At their arrival, she appeared highly nervous and was observed to be consuming a highball. She immediately launched

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

into a discussion of her physical condition and said she felt she needed to be given a sedative and to be hospitalized for several days. Following this preliminary discussion of her problems, the agents and Col. WOOD proceeded with the interview as planned, during which period she appeared to calm down noticeably and seemed rational in her speech and recollection.

Upon conclusion of this part of the interview she again launched into a discussion of her troubles and reiterated that she would like to accompany the agents back to New York so that she might consult with her physician. It was suggested that she call her doctor and explain her condition and find out if it was advisable for her to travel and also if he would be available to treat her on her arrival in New York. She made this call to Dr. GROOPMAN, her physician in New York, and was advised that he would not be available that evening and strongly advised her against the trip.

She expressed herself as being in a quandary as to her next move, whereupon it was suggested that she contact a local physician. She attempted to contact one Dr. GREENBERG at Saybrook, Conn., unsuccessfully, and therefore tried to contact Dr. HYMAN BIRNBAUM of Madison who she said had previously treated her and whom she said she distrusted because he had given her medications which had an adverse effect on her. She further implied that he engaged in some nefarious practices and had a reputation for "fooling around with his women patients". It was suggested that she attempt to find some other local physician but she declined to call any local doctor listed in the phone book claiming they were "rhubarb and soda doctors" or would offer some other illogical reason for not calling them, although it was apparent that she had little or no actual knowledge of their ability or reputation.

Her attempts to contact Dr. BIRNBAUM by phone having been unsuccessful, she requested that she be driven to his residence. Dr. BIRNBAUM was found to be home but stated that it was his day off. However, he agreed that in view of the apparent emergency, he would treat Miss BENTLEY. He thereafter indicated that he had administered a sedative to her. After returning her to her residence, agents made their departure.

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

About noon on 9/21/52, Miss BENTLEY contacted SA GALLAHER telephonically at his home and claimed that the sedative administered by Dr. BIRNBAUM had caused her to sleep until late Friday morning, following which she took a pill which he had prescribed for her and that shortly after this she blacked out and had not awakened until Sunday morning. She claimed she was quite ill and stated she could not eat because of a swollen condition of her face which had resulted from the accident. She asked if there were any doctors or nurses available who could take care of her. She said she felt she needed an antidote for the sedatives given her by Dr. BIRNBAUM.

She was advised that we knew of no one who could be made available to her in the New Haven area.

Following this conversation, her physician, Dr. GROOPMAN, of New York, was contacted and asked if he could make recommendations for treatment. He stated that since he did not know what drug had been administered he was not in a position to advise her and suggested that she recontact Dr. BIRNBAUM. He stated, however, that if she came to New York, he would be available to treat her in the afternoon or early evening.

Before a decision could be reached in this matter, Miss BENTLEY again contacted Agent GALLAHER and said she had called LADY ARMSTRONG who had advised her to come to New York where she could be treated by her own physician. She requested that agents of the New York Office go to Madison and get her. Following this conversation, it was decided that the only way to handle this problem was for the agents to proceed to Madison and bring Miss BENTLEY to New York. Upon their arrival at her residence, which involved a three hour trip through Sunday traffic, Miss BENTLEY accused the agents of being late.

Immediately preceding her departure, she began weeping and bemoaning the fact that her home state of Connecticut had been mistreating her and that she was going to fight for her rights. Any efforts on the part of the agents to ascertain in what way she was being mistreated were met with nebulous or unresponsive answers. Throughout the trip from Madison to New York City she was rambling and incoherent in her speech, making unreasonable accusations against Connecticut, Connecticut State Police, Dr. BIRNBAUM, JOHN WRIGHT (her former handyman with

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

whom she was embroiled some time ago), engaged in backseat driving, weeping, sleeping, fingering a small crucifix, chainsmoking and was quarrelsome and demanding throughout the trip. Upon arrival at the Prince George Hotel in New York she demanded that the agents enter the hotel with her, register her and call her doctor, which they refused to do.

She became argumentative and began to create a scene in the hotel lobby, but finally did call the doctor who refused to come to her because it was then about ten-thirty and he had expected her earlier. She then blamed the agents for making improper arrangements on her behalf, in spite of the fact that the doctor had previously agreed to see her on her arrival when he had discussed the matter with Agent GALLAHER. It was explained that her attitude reflected considerable lack of gratitude for the efforts expended in her behalf and she calmed down somewhat becoming apologetic and claiming that she was not blaming the agents for her predicament but began shifting the blame to others including AUSA COHN.

It was pointed out that this was also unreasonable inasmuch as Mr. COHN has in the past expended considerable effort in her behalf. Following this, she argued again regarding her registration but was led to the register and handled this matter herself with some insistence on the part of the agent.

Since Sunday evening, she has been in contact with agents on several occasions. On those occasions she appeared to be in somewhat better mental condition. However, she remains extremely talkative and inclined to dwell on her various problems to the exclusion of almost all other conversation. It has been noted, that on each occasion when she is engaged in discussing matters pertaining to her espionage activities she calms down perceptibly and carries on the interview in what appears to be a rational and logical manner. It appears to the agents who regularly contact Miss BENTLEY that, while some of her condition can be explained by the occasional excessive use of alcoholic beverages, she is becoming increasingly emotionally unstable even when not under the influence of liquor and is difficult to handle and secretive about her personal affairs until they become so involved she cannot cope with them, whereupon she makes demands upon the Bureau, the Department of Justice, and the individual agents to help her rectify her



Letter to Director

N<sup>o</sup> 65-14603

credibility as a witness in the various cases we have pending which involve her, may be seriously affected. It is felt further that her worry over her financial difficulties increases her state of tension and causes her to become more severely agitated than would be the case if such conditions were relieved.

In addition to the list of her indebtedness as set out above, Miss BENTLEY has indicated that she felt that the Department of Justice or the Bureau should assist her in obtaining and paying for another automobile, inasmuch as she feels that it is necessary for her to have transportation between her home and Madison a half mile away. Her wrecked car was a 1939 LASALLE and cannot be repaired partly because of unavailability of parts, she stated. No promises of any kind were made to her in this regard, on

As an example of the confused thinking of Miss BENTLEY at the present time, the following is set out.

During her telephone conversation of September 25th, she said she felt that AUSA COHN was partially responsible for her having wrecked her car, because she was on her way to see her attorney TOM DODD at the time and that Mr. COHN had obtained Mr. DODD's services for her.

It was pointed out to her that Mr. COHN had obtained Mr. DODD's services because of the fact that she has been accused, whether rightly or wrongly, of hit and run driving. She then launched into a diatribe against the Connecticut State Police who arrested her on this charge, this being an obsession with her since the date of her arrest. She has constantly reiterated that she has noted 8 counts of unspecified illegalities against her by the Conn. State Police and that if the charges against her are not dropped she will make things very uncomfortable for the arresting officers.

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

During the telephone conversation with her on 9/25 that she indicated her belief that the Bureau of the Dept. of Justice should pay her Hotel bill at the Prince George where she has been staying. It was strongly indicated to her that this was entirely unreasonable and that the Bureau should not under any circumstances feel obligated in this instance to pay her hotel expenses, since her stay at the hotel was purely for her own personal convenience in order that she might obtain the medical care she desired.

During this same conversation, she indicated that if the lump sum payment referred to above was not forthcoming in the immediate future, she would feel disinclined to cooperate in future interviews or to make further appearances as a witness. Also during this conversation, she was requested to answer a couple of questions pertaining to Bureau business to which she said she did not care to cooperate. However, it was pointed out to her that if this attitude persisted, further payments of the weekly stipend of \$50 would undoubtedly be discontinued. At that point, she agreed to furnish the requested information.

During the evening of 9/25/, Mr. COHN, contacted SA GALLAHER stating that he had had some conversation with Miss BENTLEY during the evening and had obtained information from her regarding EARL RUSSELL BROWDER, whose case was to be presented to the Grand Jury on 9/26/52. He requested that Miss BENTLEY appear before the Grand Jury of the SDNY to be questioned with regard to her knowledge of BROWDER's activities. He said that at first she had been somewhat uncooperative, but that she had finally consented to appear as requested and seemed glad to do so.

The above resume of acts regarding Miss BENTLEY is being presented for the Bureau's consideration and determination of whether or not any lump sum payment be made to her so that she might settle some or all of the debts listed above, and also whether or not the payments of \$50 a week to her should continue. In th

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

connection, it is pointed out that in addition to the REMINGTON and BROWDER cases mentioned herein, there are prospects that she may become a necessary witness in the JOSEPH KATZ case, as well as others which the Bureau presently has pending. It is pointed out also that Miss BENTLEY has been consulted during the past year on the average of 2 or 3 times a month, during which time she has been interviewed on numerous matters of which it was felt she would have knowledge.

It is to be reiterated here, however, that during the times when the discussion pertains to her knowledge of the espionage activities with which she is acquainted, she seems to leave her troubles somewhat in the background and discuss these matters in apparently rational fashion. It is also to be pointed out that some of the apparent emotional confusion may be caused to some degree, by the menopause which she has informed the agents she is now undergoing.

Mr. COHN and USA, SDNY have been kept constantly apprised of the various episodes in which she has been involved and the appearance of emotional instability in order that these facts might be borne in mind at such times as Miss BENTLEY is being considered as a witness.

Director, FBI

9/26/52

SAC, New York (65-14603)

GREGORY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Re NY letters to Bureau 7/10/52, 9/4/52 and Bulet  
7/16/52.

As set out in New York letter of 7/10/52, ELIZABETH BENTLEY had incurred debts of approximately \$600 and had requested assistance from AUSA COHN of the SDNY to help her pay these debts. Upon receipt of my letter 7/10/52, the Bureau authorized payment of \$50 per week to Miss BENTLEY. These payments have been made regularly to her. However, it appears that she has been using this money merely for her current living expenses and has made no substantial effort to liquidate any of the above mentioned debts.

In this regard, it might be noted that Mr. COHN, in requesting that Bureau lend some financial assistance to Miss BENTLEY, left the impression in her mind that she was to receive a lump sum payment of approximately \$1,000. As is indicated in my letter of July 10, it was considered unwise to make a lump sum payment to Miss BENTLEY inasmuch as it is felt that she was improvident and a lump sum payment would be quickly spent by her and she would again make demands on Mr. COHN and the Bureau for additional funds.

During the time that she has been receiving the \$50 payments, Miss BENTLEY has been constantly referring to the supposed lump sum payment which she believed was to be forthcoming from Mr. COHN, and has, on various occasions, been in contact with Mr. COHN in an effort to obtain payment of this lump sum. No promise of any lump sum of any amount has been made to BENTLEY by this office.

On September 11, 1952, she had an interview with Mr. COHN and he requested her to submit to him an itemized list of her indebtedness. This was not forthcoming from Miss BENTLEY.

Following a series of events, the nature of which will be set forth below, Miss BENTLEY has been in New York City for the past several days. She again contacted Mr. COHN on 9/23/52 and again made demands of him that a lump sum payment be made to her in order that she might pay the aforementioned debts.

LOG:JR

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

Following this conversation with Mr. COHN, Miss BENTLEY contacted Special Agent GALLAHER and advised him that Mr. COHN had indicated to her that the matter would be taken care of.

On 9/25/52, Mr. COHN contacted SA LESTER O. GALLAHER and asked if the Bureau could make arrangements for a lump sum payment of \$200 to Miss BENTLEY together with advance of about \$600 on the \$50 weekly payments she has been receiving. He was advised that there was considerable doubt as to the possibility of this. On the same date Miss BENTLEY contacted SA GALLAHER, having been unable to reach Mr. COHN, and reiterated that she urgently needed the lump payment which she believes was promised to her by Mr. COHN in order that she could satisfy her creditors, and she felt that this, together with the \$50 weekly payments, would give her the necessary peace of mind so that she would be a satisfactory witness in the forthcoming retrial of WILLIAM REMINGTON.

At that time she furnished the following itemized list of her indebtedness:

Jolly's Drug Store, Madison, Conn.	\$216.00
Dr. SAMUEL GROOPMAN	230.00 (app.)
Socony Gas Co. for fuel, oil and gas	18.70
PRIMOFF & PRIMOFF, Accountants (income tax advice)	125.00
Electric Bill	18.00
Milk bill	4.16
Telephone bill	10.00 (or more)
Mortgage and Tax payments	51.00 (monthly)
	\$672.86

In addition she advised she owes \$3800 in income taxes, for which she has made no demands. She advised that so far she has been engaged for five lectures during the forthcoming winter for which she is to be paid \$300 each. She stated that LADY ARMSTRONG, (whose identity is known to the Bureau) is attempting to obtain employment for her at Mt. St. Vincent's and Manhattanville, both of which are Catholic girls' schools. If she obtains this employment, the work will consist of a series of lectures at both schools which would require that she stay in New York City three or four days during each week and would permit her to return to her residence in Madison, Conn., over week-ends. She stated that as yet she has received no indication as to the amount of salary she would be paid for this work.

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

As set forth in my letter of 9/4/52, Miss BENTLEY had been involved in two incidents involving the use of her automobile. The following subsequent events have occurred.

On 9/1/52, arrangements were made with Miss BENTLEY for an interview at her residence at Madison, Conn., to be had on 9/18/52, at which time Special Agents FRANCIS W. ZANGLE, LESTER O. GALLAHER and Colonel WILLIAM WOOD of CIA were to interview her. On 9/17/52, she telephonically advised SA GALLAHER that she had been in an automobile accident during the evening of 9/15/52, and had sustained a number of bruises, was knocked unconscious for a short time and that her car was a total wreck. She said that a "drunken driver" was coming down the middle of the road toward her and in order to avoid a collision she had swerved to the left and hit a boulder. She said she was removed from her car by three local men who assisted her in getting home and was later driven to the home of TOM DODD, former AUSA in Hartford, Conn., by one of these men. Mr. DODD has been assisting her in connection with the hit-run charges previously mentioned in reference letter of 9/4/52.

During the aforementioned telephone conversation, Miss BENTLEY requested that she be permitted to ride back to New York with the agents in order that she might contact her physician, Dr. SAMUEL GROOPMAN, for examination and treatment. During this conversation, she seemed somewhat hysterical, wept at least once and was somewhat incoherent as to what had occurred. She said she had not yet obtained medical attention and was beginning to feel emotional reaction to the shock of the accident. No commitments were made to her concerning the trip back to N. Y.

After this matter was discussed, it was decided to request her to come to New York by train, which she agreed to do, advising the agents that she would arrive at 9:35 a.m. on the 18th. However, she did not appear at the agreed time and was contacted by telephone at her residence. She stated that she had overslept and had therefore missed her train. The agents thereupon drove to Madison with Colonel WOOD for the interview. At their arrival, she appeared highly nervous and was observed to be consuming a highball. She immediately launched

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

into a discussion of her physical condition and said she felt she needed to be given a sedative and to be hospitalized for several days. Following this preliminary discussion of her problems, the agents and Col. WOOD proceeded with the interview as planned, during which period she appeared to calm down noticeably and seemed rational in her speech and recollection.

Upon conclusion of this part of the interview she again launched into a discussion of her troubles and reiterated that she would like to accompany the agents back to New York so that she might consult with her physician. It was suggested that she call her doctor and explain her condition and find out if it was advisable for her to travel and also if he would be available to treat her on her arrival in New York. She made this call to Dr. GROOPMAN, her physician in New York, and was advised that he would not be available that evening and strongly advised her against the trip.

She expressed herself as being in a quandary as to her next move, whereupon it was suggested that she contact a local physician. She attempted to contact one Dr. GREENBERG at Saybrook, Conn., unsuccessfully, and therefore tried to contact Dr. HYMAN BIRNBAUM of Madison who she said had previously treated her and whom she said she distrusted because he had given her medications which had an adverse effect on her. She further implied that he engaged in some nefarious practices and had a reputation for "fooling around with his women patients". It was suggested that she attempt to find some other local physician but she declined to call any local doctor listed in the phone book claiming they were "rhubarb and soda doctors" or would offer some other illogical reason for not calling them, although it was apparent that she had little or no actual knowledge of their ability or reputation.

Her attempts to contact Dr. BIRNBAUM by phone having been unsuccessful, she requested that she be driven to his residence. Dr. BIRNBAUM was found to be home but stated that it was his day off. However, he agreed that in view of the apparent emergency, he would treat Miss BENTLEY. He thereafter indicated that he had administered a sedative to her. After returning her to her residence, agents made their departure.

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

About noon on 9/21/52, Miss BENTLEY contacted SA GALLAHER telephonically at his home and claimed that the sedative administered by Dr. BIRNBAUM had caused her to sleep until late Friday morning, following which she took a pill which he had prescribed for her and that shortly after this she blacked out and had not awakened until Sunday morning. She claimed she was quite ill and stated she could not eat because of a swollen condition of her face which had resulted from the accident. She asked if there were any doctors or nurses available who could take care of her. She said she felt she needed an antidote for the sedatives given her by Dr. BIRNBAUM.

She was advised that we knew of no one who could be made available to her in the New Haven area.

Following this conversation, her physician, Dr. GROOPMAN, of New York, was contacted and asked if he could make recommendations for treatment. He stated that since he did not know what drug had been administered he was not in a position to advise her and suggested that she recontact Dr. BIRNBAUM. He stated, however, that if she came to New York, he would be available to treat her in the afternoon or early evening.

Before a decision could be reached in this matter, Miss BENTLEY again contacted Agent GALLAHER and said she had called LADY ARMSTRONG who had advised her to come to New York where she could be treated by her own physician. She requested that agents of the New York Office go to Madison and get her. Following this conversation, it was decided that the only way to handle this problem was for the agents to proceed to Madison and bring Miss BENTLEY to New York. Upon their arrival at her residence, which involved a three hour trip through Sunday traffic, Miss BENTLEY accused the agents of being late.

Immediately preceding her departure, she began weeping and bemoaning the fact that her home state of Connecticut had been mistreating her and that she was going to fight for her rights. Any efforts on the part of the agents to ascertain in what way she was being mistreated were met with nebulous or unresponsive answers. Throughout the trip from Madison to New York City she was rambling and incoherent in her speech, making unreasonable accusations against Connecticut, Connecticut State Police, Dr. BIRNBAUM, JOHN WRIGHT (her former handyman with



Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

whom she was embroiled some time ago), engaged in backseat driving, weeping, sleeping, fingering a small crucifix, chain smoking and was quarrelsome and demanding throughout the trip. Upon arrival at the Prince George Hotel in New York she demanded that the agents enter the hotel with her, register her and call her doctor, which they refused to do.

She became argumentative and began to create a scene in the hotel lobby, but finally did call the doctor who refused to come to her because it was then about ten-thirty and he had expected her earlier. She then blamed the agents for making improper arrangements on her behalf, in spite of the fact that the doctor had previously agreed to see her on her arrival when he had discussed the matter with Agent GALLAHER. It was explained that her attitude reflected considerable lack of gratitude for the efforts expended in her behalf and she calmed down somewhat becoming apologetic and claiming that she was not blaming the agents for her predicament but began shifting the blame to others including AUSA COHN.

It was pointed out that this was also unreasonable inasmuch as Mr. COHN has in the past expended considerable effort in her behalf. Following this, she argued again regarding her registration but was led to the register and handled this matter herself with some insistence on the part of the agent.

Since Sunday evening, she has been in contact with agents on several occasions. On those occasions she appeared to be in somewhat better mental condition. However, she remains extremely talkative and inclined to dwell on her various problems to the exclusion of almost all other conversation. It has been noted, that on each occasion when she is engaged in discussing matters pertaining to her espionage activities she calms down perceptibly and carries on the interview in what appears to be a rational and logical manner. It appears to the agents who regularly contact Miss BENTLEY that, while some of her condition can be explained by the occasional excessive use of alcoholic beverages, she is becoming increasingly emotionally unstable even when not under the influence of liquor and is difficult to handle and secretive about her personal affairs until they become so involved she cannot cope with them, whereupon she makes demands upon the Bureau, the Department of Justice, and the individual agents to help her rectify her

Letter to Director

N 65-14603

credibility as a witness in the various cases we have pending which involve her, may be seriously affected. It is felt further that her worry over her financial difficulties increases her state of tension and causes her to become more severely agitated than would be the case if such conditions were relieved.

In addition to the list of her indebtedness as set out above, Miss BENTLEY has indicated that she felt that the Department of Justice or the Bureau should assist her in obtaining and paying for another automobile, inasmuch as she feels that it is necessary for her to have transportation between her home and Madison a half mile away. Her wrecked car was a 1939 LASALLE and cannot be repaired partly because of unavailability of parts, she stated. No promises of any kind were made to her in this regard, on

As an example of the confused thinking of Miss BENTLEY at the present time, the following is set out.

During her telephone conversation of September 25th, she said she felt that AUSA COHN was partially responsible for her having wrecked her car, because she was on her way to see her attorney TOM DODD at the time and that Mr. COHN had obtained Mr. DODD's services for her.

It was pointed out to her that Mr. COHN had obtained Mr. DODD's services because of the fact that she has been accused, whether rightly or wrongly, of hit and run driving. She then launched into a diatribe against the Connecticut State Police who arrested her on this charge, this being an obsession with her since the date of her arrest. She has constantly reiterated that she has noted 8 counts of unspecified illegalities against her by the Conn. State Police and that if the charges against her are not dropped she will make things very uncomfortable for the arresting officers.

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

During the telephone conversation with her on 9/25 that she indicated her belief that the Bureau of the Dept. of Justice should pay her Hotel bill at the Prince George where she has been staying. It was strongly indicated to her that this was entirely unreasonable and that the Bureau should not under any circumstances feel obligated in this instance to pay her hotel expenses, since her stay at the hotel was purely for her own personal convenience in order that she might obtain the medical care she desired.

During this same conversation, she indicated that if the lump sum payment referred to above was not forthcoming in the immediate future, she would feel disinclined to cooperate in future interviews or to make further appearances as a witness. Also during this conversation, she was requested to answer a couple of questions pertaining to Bureau business to which she said she did not care to cooperate. However, it was pointed out to her that if this attitude persisted, further payments of the weekly stipend of \$50 would undoubtedly be discontinued. At that point, she agreed to furnish the requested information.

During the evening of 9/25, Mr. COHN, contacted SA GALLAHER stating that he had had some conversation with Miss BENTLEY during the evening and had obtained information from her regarding EARL RUSSELL BROWDER, whose case was to be presented to the Grand Jury on 9/26/52. He requested that Miss BENTLEY appear before the Grand Jury of the SDNY to be questioned with regard to her knowledge of BROWDER's activities. He said that at first she had been somewhat uncooperative, but that she had finally consented to appear as requested and seemed glad to do so.

The above resume of facts regarding Miss BENTLEY is being presented for the Bureau's consideration and determination of whether or not any lump sum payment be made to her so that she might settle some or all of the debts listed above, and also whether or not the payments of \$50 a week to her should continue. In this

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

connection, it is pointed out that in addition to the REMINGTON and BROWDER cases mentioned herein, there are prospects that she may become a necessary witness in the JOSEPH KATZ case, as well as others which the Bureau presently has pending. It is pointed out also that Miss BENTLEY has been consulted during the past year on the average of 2 or 3 times a month, during which time she has been interviewed on numerous matters of which it was felt she would have knowledge.

It is to be reiterated here, however, that during the times when the discussion pertains to her knowledge of the espionage activities with which she is acquainted, she seems to leave her troubles somewhat in the background and discuss these matters in apparently rational fashion. It is also to be pointed out that some of the apparent emotional confusion may be caused to some degree, by the menopause which she has informed the agents she is now undergoing.

Mr. COHN and USA, SDNY have been kept constantly apprised of the various episodes in which she has been involved and the appearance of emotional instability in order that these facts might be borne in mind at such times as Miss BENTLEY is being considered as a witness.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd  
 FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRELL BENTLEY

DATE: September 26, 1952

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Tom McAndrews called from New York on the afternoon of September 26. He stated that Bentley was then in the office of Special Assistant to the Attorney General Roy Cohn. Bentley has stated that she wrecked her automobile during the instant week and that she is without funds. She has demanded that transportation be afforded her to her home in Connecticut and also transportation to New York and back when she is needed by the Government and also that an automobile be made available to her when it is necessary that she do shopping and other errands. She stated that she will not leave Cohn's office until he agrees to do this. *BFB*

Cohn called the New York Office and wanted to know whether the New York Office would afford Bentley transportation to Connecticut and thereafter have an Agent call on her at weekly intervals to see if they can help her with her shopping and such. He was advised by the New York Office that we definitely would not do this. He then wanted to know if she was placed on a train to New Haven whether the Bureau would have Agents meet her and take her to her home in Madison, Connecticut, which is about ten miles from New Haven. McAndrews wanted to know if it was satisfactory for the New York Office to do this.

McAndrews pointed out that the Bureau has authorized payment in the sum of \$450.00 to Bentley to help her in her current financial difficulties and in this connection this sum is being paid to her in nine weekly payments of \$50.00 each. There are still three weeks to run on these payments.

OBSERVATIONS

Bentley is, of course, a necessary witness for the Government in the case of Earl and Irene Browder which is presently being handled by Cohn in New York. She will also be a necessary witness for the Government in the case of William Remington. She is also a potential witness in *134-435-67* *VSD*

RECORDED - 131

68 OCT 15 1952

EX-115

SE 26

CEH:nlm

OCT 30 1952

67 OCT 13 1952

connection with certain espionage cases which are being handled by the Bureau. During recent weeks she has become increasingly difficult to handle, has been on several drinking sprees, has become involved in an automobile accident and fights. It is the opinion of the Agents handling her that she is probably cracking up emotionally.

#### ACTION

Mr. Hennrich authorized McAndrews to tell Cohn that we would arrange to have Agents meet Bentley and take her from New Haven to her home in Madison. He told McAndrews to tell Cohn that we could not and would not act as a nursemaid to Bentley. He told him to suggest to Cohn that if Bentley is destitute that it might be that the USA could pay her consultant's fee or expert witness' fee in connection with her appearance in New York City.

McAndrews later called and advised that Cohn had arranged, from a source whose identity he did not disclose, to obtain sufficient money for her to rent an automobile and that she was going to rent a car to drive back home to Connecticut and to use for an unspecified period. The Agents took Bentley to midtown Manhattan where she desired to go and where she said she was going to rent a car.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT *MB*  
 FROM : MR. C. E. HENRICH *CH*  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY

DATE: October 6, 1952

I talked with ASAC Whelan in New York on October 6, 1952, regarding New York letter dated September 26, 1952, entitled "Gregory; Espionage - R." I pointed out that while the New York Office has set forth a resume of some of the problems which have arisen in connection with the handling of the informant, Elizabeth T. Bentley, they have not made any specific recommendations, although they posed to the Bureau the problem as to whether continuation should be made of the payment of \$50. a week to Bentley or whether a lump sum payment should be made to her, at the same time emphasizing her value as a witness in the Remington, Browder, Katz, and other cases.

I instructed Mr. Whelan to have someone bring the information as to Bentley up to date and to analyze her value as a witness. I pointed out that the NYO has the responsibility of handling Bentley and controlling her. I asked that specific recommendations be made by the NYO as to our financial handling of Bentley in the future and also as to the control of her activities so that she may be available as a witness in cases where her presence is necessary.

ACTION:

Upon the receipt of New York's memorandum, it will be carefully analyzed and appropriate recommendations will be made.

CEH:LL

RECORDED

EX-13

134-435-68

OCT 8 1952

63 NOV

7 1952

*Handwritten signature/initials*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)  
 SUBJECT: GREGORY  
 ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 10/8/52

ReNY let 9/26/52 and telephone call between Inspector Carl Hennrich of the Bureau and ASAC William M. Whelan on 10/7/52.

The \$50 weekly payment to ELIZABETH BENTLEY, which the Bureau has authorized, expires 10/15/52. Miss BENTLEY has advised that her creditors are making a definite effort to collect the money which she owes. An itemized list of her indebtedness is set forth on page two of referenced New York letter.

Insofar as this office is concerned, it is believed that two alternative suggestions can be made to assist Miss BENTLEY in a financial way in order to assure that she will be a favorable government witness in the coming REMINGTON retrieval and other matters in which the Bureau may desire to utilize her services. It is felt that if the Bureau could allocate \$500 towards the payment of her bill with Jolly's Drug Store at Madison, Conn., Dr. SAMUEL GROOPMAN, and PRIMOFF & PRIMOFF, Accountants, and continue for another three-month period to pay her a weekly sum of \$50, this would be one way of getting her out of her financial difficulties. Another possibility is suggested in that we increase her payment from \$50 to \$100 a week for a period of three months with a definite understanding with Miss BENTLEY that at least \$50 be paid to her various creditors.

Due to Miss BENTLEY's improvidence, it is felt that if the Bureau sees fit to pay her the sum of \$500, that this money should be given to her only upon her promise to tender to this Bureau a receipted bill from the individuals to whom she is indebted. Likewise, if her payment is increased from \$50 to \$100 a week, it is felt Miss BENTLEY should furnish this office a financial statement at the end of each month showing exactly how much of the \$100 weekly payment has been used to decrease her indebtedness.

This office is well aware of the economy measures which must be enforced by everyone in the Bureau at this time, and it is with great reluctance that the above recommendations are made, which will affect in some way the Bureau's financial situation. However, in view of the strict circumstances surrounding this informant, there does not appear to be any other way to handle this matter at least at the present time.

134-435-69

RECORDED - 102

OCT 8 1952

TGS:EG

EX-102

W.A. RY

Let to New York  
 10/22/52 RSL  
 Memo to Belmont  
 10/15/52 RSL



SAC, New York (65-14603)

October 22, 1952

Director, FBI (65-56498)

ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

134-435-69

The Bureau will authorize you to continue the \$50.00 a week payments to Elizabeth Bentley, effective October 15, 1952, for a period not to exceed three months. Thereafter you should submit your recommendation relative to continuing these payments and you should analyze Bentley's future value as a source of information.

The Bureau is also authorizing you to make a \$500.00 lump sum payment to Elizabeth Bentley for past services. You should insure that this money is utilized by Bentley in handling her current indebtedness which is causing her serious financial difficulties at the present time.

It is incumbent upon your office to exercise control of Elizabeth Bentley. It would appear that we have experienced more difficulty with her since she became a paid informant than during the period she was volunteering her cooperation. You should make sure that she understands we are not going to continue indefinitely to put up with her running to us for assistance every time she finds herself in financial or other difficulties. You should inform her that any further trouble may necessitate our terminating any further weekly payments to her.

COMM - FBI  
OCT 22 1952  
MAILED 24

RJL:pm

63 NOV 20 1952  
FBI  
RECEIVED

RECEIVED  
FBI  
OCT 22 1952

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT  
FROM : MR. W. A. BRANIGAN  
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

DATE: October 15, 1952

PURPOSE

To recommend that the New York Office be authorized to continue the \$50.00 a week payments to Elizabeth Bentley for a period not to exceed three months. It is also recommended that a \$500.00 lump sum payment be made to Elizabeth Bentley for past services which will relieve her current indebtedness which is causing her considerable worry and is jeopardizing our use of her as a source of information.

DETAILS

The New York Office has had considerable difficulty with Bentley recently. She has been involved in two automobile accidents. She has become increasingly neurotic, hard to handle, and is drinking heavily.

On the other hand you will recall that Bentley has been contacted by our agents on an almost steady basis since November, 1945. Until July of 1952, she had never been reimbursed as an informant or source of information and had never asked for any money with the exception that in the spring of this year we made arrangements for her to get the \$2,000.00 which she had received from her Soviet Espionage superior and which she had turned over to us. Starting on July 15, 1952, we began paying her \$50.00 a week, and we are utilizing her as a source of information on a wide variety of matters. Bentley is one of the principal witnesses in the Remington case which will be tried this fall. We are currently making efforts to return Joseph Katz to the United States and any prosecution of Katz would be based to a large

RJL:awm

Attachment

RECORDED

134-435-70

65-61552-55

10-23-52

917

79 NOV 10 1952

extent on Bentley's testimony. If Katz were cooperative, his testimony and Bentley's testimony might enable a number of important prosecutions in the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster group.

Bentley is heavily indebted at the present time, and the New York Office has recommended a payment to her in the sum of \$500.00 for past services, or in the alternative raising the weekly amount to her to the sum of \$100.00 a week. They feel that in this way she will be relieved of some of her financial worries which apparently are causing in part the neurotic attitude on her part.

#### RECOMMENDATION

There is attached for your approval a memorandum to the New York Office authorizing them to continue the weekly payments of \$50.00 to Bentley for a period of three months. Authorization to pay her \$500.00 for past services to be used by her in reducing her indebtedness is also being made. The New York Office is being informed that it is incumbent upon them to control Bentley and to reach an understanding with her that we are not going to continue to get her out of financial difficulties.

WAC  
S ✓ [Signature] [Signature] [Signature]

#### ADDENDUM:

The question has been raised as to whether we would be able to justify our weekly payments of \$50.00 to Elizabeth Bentley if we were forced to reveal such payments in a court proceeding in the Remington case or other cases. It is felt our position can be justified as Bentley has provided and continues to provide important information on a number of cases, and her work for us takes up a considerable amount of her time as does her appearances before Federal Grand Juries and other legal proceedings.

[Signature]

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: November 13, 1952

FROM: SAC, NEW HAVEN (134-40)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Re New Haven teletype to Bureau and New York, 8/29/52.

Lt. FRANCIS MANGAN, Commanding Officer, Westbrook Barracks, Connecticut State Police, advised that the case of evasion of responsibility against the above individual came up in the Westbrook Court on November 8, 1952, at which time the charge was changed to violation of the road. Lt. MANGAN advised that ELIZABETH BENTLEY was found guilty of failure to grant one-half of the highway. She pleaded nolo contendere, was fined \$9.00, which fine she paid.

Of interest to both the Bureau and New York, Lt. MANGAN furnished the following information on September 23, 1952, concerning the above individual. He stated that ELIZABETH BENTLEY was involved in another accident at 5:55 p.m. on September 15, 1952, on Route 79, just south of the rotary at North Madison, Conn. He related that BENTLEY ran off the road and caused considerable damage to her car which is now at Woody's Garage, Route 40, North Guilford, Conn.

No other car or person was involved, according to Lt. MANGAN. He stated that the accident was reported to the Madison, Conn. Police Department by an unknown man. The Madison Police Department conducted an investigation, made no arrests, and advised ELIZABETH BENTLEY's car was damaged beyond repair.

RECORDED-45

NOV 18 1952

cc: 2 - New York

77 DEC 1 1952

134-435-71

61-6328-12

REC'D  
 NOV 18 1952  
 NOV 18 1952  
 NOV 18 1952

W. J. [Signature]  
 J. A. [Signature]

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
ESPIONAGE R

DATE: 1/16/53

Remylet 9/26/52 and Bulet 10/22/52:

Rebulet authorized payment of \$50 a week to ELIZABETH BENTLEY effective 10/15/52, for a period not to exceed three months. This letter also authorized payment of a lump sum of \$500 to Miss BENTLEY. These payments have been made and proper receipts obtained.

In the last three months there has been a marked improvement in Miss BENTLEY's temperament and she has appeared to be much more stable in her demeanor. Also, since the date of my letter of 9/26/52 Miss BENTLEY has advised she has obtained temporary employment doing research work for ALFRED KOHLBERG, 1 West 37 Street, New York City. However, inasmuch as this employment involves her staying in a hotel during the week and travel back and forth to her residence at Madison, Connecticut over the week-end, it is doubtful she is netting much more than living expenses from this job.

On 1/15/53, Miss BENTLEY appeared as a witness in the trial of WILLIAM REMINGTON in the Southern District of New York and conducted herself in a creditable fashion.

Inasmuch as it is believed that the services of Miss BENTLEY will be required in any possible action taken on JOSEPH KATZ and numerous other cases in which she is involved, it is recommended that the \$50 weekly payments be continued for another three-month period, at the end of which her financial situation will be reviewed with her and the Bureau advised concerning the desirability of continuing these payments.

RECORDED

JAN 19 1953

21

SAC, New York (65-14803)

February 3, 1953

Director, FBI (65-58408)

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
ESPIONAGE - R

RECORDED

Reurmemo dated January 16, 1953. You are authorized to continue payments to Bentley at the rate of \$50.00 a week for another three-month period.

RJL:awn

Note: Payments to Bentley as confidential source authorized on July 16, 1952, at \$50.00 per week and have been continued at that rate. We paid her in addition \$500.00 for past services on October 22, 1952, to relieve her of serious financial difficulties.

REC-117  
FEB 5 5 01 PM '53

MAILED 9  
FEB 5 1953  
66 MAR 10 1953  
FBI

RECEIVED  
FEB 5 1953  
FBI

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIRTEL

NEW YORK, N.Y. FEB. 25, 1953

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

BUREAU

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, ESP+R. REBULET 2/3/53 AUTHORIZING \$50.00 WEEKLY  
PAYMENTS TO BENTLEY AND MYLET 2/5/53 ADVISING BUREAU TO DISREGARD REQUEST  
FOR THIS AUTHORIZATION. MISS BENTLEY'S DEPARTURE TO ASSUME TEACHING POSITION  
AT GRAND COTEAU, LOUISIANA, HAS BEEN DELAYED DUE TO AN ATTACK OF FLU NEGES-  
SITATING HER CONFINEMENT TO A HOSPITAL IN NYC FOR FIVE DAYS. SHE IS PRESENTLY  
RECUOPERATING AT MARTHA WASHINGTON HOTEL, NYC, AND EXPECTS HER DEPARTURE TO  
BE FURTHER DELAYED FOR APPROXIMATELY A WEEK. BEFORE HER DEPARTURE AGENTS OF  
THIS OFFICE EXPECT TO CONTACT HER TO REVIEW WITH HER INFORMATION WHICH SHE  
HAS FURNISHED RE VICTOR PERLO IN CONNECTION WITH PREPARATION OF PROSECUTIVE  
SUMMARY ON PERLO PRESENTLY BEING PREPARED. ALSO A NUMBER OF OTHER PENDING  
MATTERS WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH MISS BENTLEY. INASMUCH AS BENTLEY HAS BEEN  
PUT TO CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE BECAUSE OF HER HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT AND DELAYED  
DEPARTURE AND SINCE HER COOPERATION IS ESSENTIAL IN ANY CONTEMPLATED  
PROSECUTIVE ACTION ON PERLO, A PAYMENT OF \$100.00 WILL BE MADE TO HER UNDER  
BUREAU AUTHORITY OF 2/3/53 UACB.

FD-36  
Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED - 46

BOARDMAN

FEB 26 1953

15

③ Bureau

1 - New Orleans (Info)

LOG:BM  
65-14603

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_

Per \_\_\_\_\_

EX-151

cc: Mr. [unclear]

*cut*  
AIRTEL

NEW YORK, N.Y. FEB. 25, 1953

BUREAU

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY, ESP-R. REBULET 2/3/53 AUTHORIZING \$50.00 WEEKLY  
PAYMENTS TO BENTLEY AND MYLET 2/5/53 ADVISING BUREAU TO DISREGARD REQUEST  
FOR THIS AUTHORIZATION. MISS BENTLEY'S DEPARTURE TO ASSUME TEACHING POSITION  
AT GRAND COTEAU, LOUISIANA, HAS BEEN DELAYED DUE TO AN ATTACK OF FLU NECES-  
SITATING HER CONFINEMENT TO A HOSPITAL IN NYC FOR FIVE DAYS. SHE IS PRESENTLY  
RECOVERING AT MARTHA WASHINGTON HOTEL, NYC, AND EXPECTS HER DEPARTURE TO  
BE FURTHER DELAYED FOR APPROXIMATELY A WEEK. BEFORE HER DEPARTURE AGENTS OF  
THIS OFFICE EXPECT TO CONTACT HER TO REVIEW WITH HER INFORMATION WHICH SHE  
HAS FURNISHED RE VICTOR PERLO IN CONNECTION WITH PREPARATION OF PROSECUTIVE  
SUMMARY ON PERLO PRESENTLY BEING PREPARED. ALSO A NUMBER OF OTHER PENDING  
MATTERS WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH MISS BENTLEY. INASMUCH AS BENTLEY HAS BEEN  
PUT TO CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE BECAUSE OF HER HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT AND DELAYED  
DEPARTURE AND SINCE HER COOPERATION IS ESSENTIAL IN ANY CONTEMPLATED  
PROSECUTIVE ACTION ON PERLO, A PAYMENT OF \$100.00 WILL BE MADE TO HER UNDER  
BUREAU AUTHORITY OF 2/3/53 UACB.

BOARDMAN

③ Bureau

1 - New Orleans (Info)

LOG:IM  
65-14603

*orig. in Bureau*



SAO, Washington Field (101-2139)

March 9, 1953

Director, FBI (65-14303)

MAURICE HYMAN HALPERIN  
ESPIONAGE - R

ReNYlet February 5, 1953, captioned  
"Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, Confidential Source;  
Maurice Hyman Halperin, Espionage - R, Internal  
Security - R," advising that Elizabeth Bentley  
had accepted a teaching position at the College  
of the Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, La., for which  
place she would depart within the next few days,  
and from which she intended to return to her  
home in Madison, Connecticut, at the end of the  
semester, about June 15, 1953.

Referenced letter pointed out the  
Bureau might desire to have Bentley review certain  
State Department material at Grand Coteau, La.,  
or might desire to postpone such review until  
Bentley returns to her home at the end of the  
semester.

Reference is made to Bureau letter  
dated January 29, 1953, instructing WFO to con-  
tact Mr. John W. Ford, Department of State, for  
the purpose of obtaining the material to be dis-  
played to Bentley.

In the event that WFO has already obtained  
the material in question, it would appear desirable  
that it be displayed promptly to Bentley at Grand  
Coteau, La. Further, even though this material has  
not yet been obtained from the State Department, the  
Bureau has no objection to its being obtained and  
promptly displayed to Bentley at Grand Coteau, La.,  
provided WFO has no reason for not doing this.

WFO is requested to advise the status of this  
matter and its desires with respect thereto.

CC - 2 - Boston (100-25501)  
2 - New York (100-25501)  
2 - New Orleans (100-25501)  
2 - New York (100-25501)

NOT RECORDED  
69 MAR 10 1953  
(100-25501)

68 APR 8 1953

APR 1 - FBI  
5 10 1953

65-14303-86X  
141-6328-141  
ORIGINAL FILED IN 67-6328-141

Director, FBI (65-56402) (65-14303)

2/5/53

SAC, New York (65-14603)

ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

MAURICE HYMAN HALPERIN  
ESPIONAGE - R  
IS - R

Re New York letter 1/16/53 under the former caption  
and Washington Field letter 1/29/53 under the HALPERIN caption.

On her return from a lecture trip to Texas Miss E. T. BENTLEY advised today she was accepting a position to teach in the Romance Language Department of the College of the Sacred Heart in Grand Coteau, Louisiana. She intends to clear up some of her business and personal affairs in New York and Madison, Connecticut within the next few days and proceed immediately to Grand Coteau, La.

BENTLEY said Grand Coteau is near Lafayette, Louisiana, where she boarded the plane to come back to New York.

Miss BENTLEY said she will not sell her home in Madison, but will only close it up as she intends to return here at the end of the semester about 6/15/53. The College of the Sacred Heart is run by a religious order of nuns called Mothers of the Sacred Heart. Miss BENTLEY knows Mother LAPEYRE who is in charge of the college and she stopped off at Grand Coteau on the way back from Texas to see Mother LAPEYRE.

Mother LAPEYRE offered her a teaching position for the remainder of the current semester with the chance of remaining permanently on the staff if events this semester work out to their mutual satisfaction. BENTLEY said she intended to return to Madison, Conn. and New York City in June whether or not an agreement is reached for her to teach in the next school year at the college.

No mention was made of the status of future payments to Miss BENTLEY and she did not bring it up. It is requested that the Bureau disregard for the present the remarks concerning payments in New York letter of 1/16/53.

- 1 - New Orleans (Info) (REGISTERED)
- 1 - Boston (100-255501) (Info) (REGISTERED)
- 1 - Washington Field (101-2139) (Info) (REGISTERED)
- 1 - New Haven (134-40) (Info) (REGISTERED)
- 1 - New York (65-15641)

134-435-  
NOT RECORDED  
MAR 25 1953

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

Rebulet dated 1/29/53 entitled, "MAURICE HYMAN HALPERIN" contained instructions to arrange to have BENTLEY view some material in the presence of an agent. In an earlier Washington Field letter of 10/21/52 it was estimated the project would take approximately 48 hours of actual perusal. In view of BENTLEY'S impending departure for Grand Coteau, La., where it is noted the school term has already begun, and because the material has not yet been obtained by Washington Field office, it is suggested that the Bureau may wish to make arrangements to have the material shown to BENTLEY in Grand Coteau, La. or to wait until the current school term is over and BENTLEY returns to the East.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

DATE: March 16, 1953

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_

Ladd \_\_\_\_\_

Clegg \_\_\_\_\_

Glavin \_\_\_\_\_

Harbo \_\_\_\_\_

Tracy \_\_\_\_\_

Belmont \_\_\_\_\_

Mohr \_\_\_\_\_

Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

Nease \_\_\_\_\_

Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SYNOPSIS

In the attached letter dated March 9, 1953, from John B. Wright, former caretaker for Bentley, he complains that during a conference (May 14, 1952) with United States Attorney Lane, Armand Chankalian, Administrative Assistant to U. S. Attorney, and a Special Agent of the FBI, the Agent was rude to him. The Bureau's files reflect Bentley had on May 7, 1952, advised the New York Office that on April 30, 1952, she had been assaulted by her handy man, Wright. Bentley received a rather serious beating from Wright. Upon telephonic instructions from the Bureau, the New York Office made these facts known to United States Attorney Lane and on May 14, 1952, Wright was subpoenaed to Lane's office and explained to Lane that on the occasion of striking Bentley, he had had some drinks before driving home and perhaps was influenced because of this. Lane cautioned Wright and advised him of the penalty he might suffer for interfering with a Government witness and he agreed he would terminate any further relationship with Bentley. Wright was left in possession of a grand jury subpoena marked on a continuing basis and was told if he interfered with Bentley in the future he would be recalled and brought before a grand jury to explain his actions. In a memorandum from the New York Office dated May 16, 1952, which is attached, the details concerning this matter were set forth. Special Agent John J. Danahy, who was present at the conference, states he was introduced to Wright by U. S. Attorney Lane, who did all the talking at the conference. Danahy states he at no time made any remarks to Wright of any kind. Wright has a criminal record, having been arrested by Connecticut State Police on May 14, 1934, for breaking and entering, and received six months' imprisonment, terminated May 7, 1938, by Police Department, Watford, Connecticut, on aggravated assault and received three months' imprisonment, a doctor who examined Wright described him as below average mentally, and a braggart and an adolescent type.

Attachment

134-435

RJL:brg:awn

\* Danahy denies whispering  
to Lane

RECORDED - 105

INDEXED - 105

MAR 26 1953

APR 15 1953

RECOMMENDATION

In view of the fact that Wright admitted his assault on Bentley and has a criminal record, no action appears warranted in this matter and it is recommended that no acknowledgment of Wright's letter be made.

I agree no action  
against agent warranted.  
Since no rudeness proved,  
but recommend Wright  
be contacted by Agent  
advised of facts.

*Logue*  
*3-17*  
*Lane*  
*2/17*

DETAILS

There is attached a memorandum from John P. Wright of Madison, Connecticut, dated March 9, 1953, with which he enclosed a Photostat of a grand jury subpoena dated May 12, 1952, calling for his appearance on May 14, 1952, and indicating the subpoena was to remain in effect. In his letter, Wright complains that when subpoenaed there had been a conference attended by himself, by Myles J. Lane, United States Attorney, by a Special Agent of the FBI, and by Armand Chankalian, whom Wright claims was introduced to him as foreman of the grand jury but who at that time was actually an Administrative Assistant to the U. S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York.

Wright states that the Special Agent of the FBI refused to identify himself but showed his credentials, was exceedingly rude and repeatedly whispered to Lane. Wright in his letter states he feels the Agent should be given a lesson or two in proper behavior and manners and were he an employee of Wright's, he would be fired instantly. The facts behind this instance are as follows:

On May 7, 1952, Elizabeth Bentley advised the New York Office that on April 30, 1952, she had been assaulted by her handy man, John Burghardt Wright. Her doctor described her condition as quite serious due to this beating. Several teeth on the left side of her face were loosened and there were cuts on the inside of her mouth which had become infected. Upon telephonic instructions from the Bureau, the

New York Office made these facts known to United States Attorney Lane who assigned the matter to Assistant United States Attorney Roy Cohn for handling on the basis that Bentley was a very important witness in a number of pending cases which were scheduled for trial or coming before a Federal Grand Jury, including the Remington case. It was also noted that Bentley had been an important witness in the Julius Rosenberg case which was still before the appellate court. On May 14, 1952, Wright was subpoenaed before the Federal Grand Jury but was brought instead to United States Attorney Lane's office where he was interviewed and Wright during the conference admitted that he had struck Bentley. Lane informed Wright of the penalty he could receive for interfering with a Government witness and Wright agreed he would terminate any further relationship with Miss Bentley. He was left with a grand jury subpoena which was marked on a continuing basis and was cautioned that any further association with Bentley would result in his being recalled and brought before a Federal Grand Jury to explain his actions.

In the attached memorandum dated May 16, 1952, from the New York Office, it is indicated that Wright was born December 18, 1897, at Worcester, Massachusetts. He was arrested by the Connecticut State Police on May 12, 1934, and was convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment. He was arrested on May 7, 1938, by the Police Department at Madison, Connecticut, for aggravated assault and was later sentenced to serve three months in prison. Dr. Samuel Groopman, Bentley's physician, who examined Wright on one occasion, commented that Wright was below average mentally, a braggart and an adolescent type. He felt that Wright intended physical harm to Bentley and there was no question in his mind that Bentley was afraid of Wright. It would appear doubtful from Dr. Groopman's description of Wright that he actually wrote the letter which has now been received at the Bureau and it would appear more likely that someone prepared this letter for him. It is also to be noted that he has waited almost a year to complain about the actions of our Agent. In view

of the allegations concerning a Special Agent, Mr. Hennrich contacted ASAC Whelan at New York, and he advised on March 16, 1953, that the Agent at the conference was Special Agent John J. Danahy (EOD - 7-27-42, GS-13, \$8,360.00, NYFO). Danahy was present at the conference at the specific request of U. S. Attorney Lane. Danahy states the conference was of short duration, about thirty minutes in all, with Lane doing all the talking. Danahy was introduced to Wright by Lane, his name being given. Danahy did not exhibit any credentials as alleged by Wright. Danahy sat ten to fifteen feet from Lane and did not whisper to Lane, and he was not at any time rude to Wright, Lane having done all the talking.

Danahy states Armand Chankalian, then an Administrative Assistant to Lane, came in during the conference and listened to what took place but did not take an active part in the conference.

In view of the fact that Wright admitted his assault on Bentley and has a criminal record, no action in connection with this matter would appear warranted, and it is not felt necessary to acknowledge Wright's letter.

2  
J. J. Danahy  
ST



D. M. LADD

March 16, 1953

A. H. BELMONT

ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY  
CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE

SYNOPSIS

In the attached letter dated March 9, 1953, from John B. Wright, former caretaker for Bentley, he complains that during a conference (May 14, 1952) with United States Attorney Lane, Armand Chankalian, Administrative Assistant to U. S. Attorney, and a Special Agent of the FBI, the Agent was rude to him. The Bureau's files reflect Bentley had on May 7, 1952, advised the New York Office that on April 30, 1952, she had been assaulted by her handy man, Wright. Bentley received a rather serious beating from Wright. Upon telephonic instructions from the Bureau, the New York Office made these facts known to United States Attorney Lane and on May 14, 1952, Wright was subpoenaed to Lane's office and explained to Lane that on the occasion of striking Bentley, he had had some drinks before driving home and perhaps was influenced because of this. Lane cautioned Wright and advised him of the penalty he might suffer for interfering with a Government witness and he agreed he would terminate any further relationship with Bentley. Wright was left in possession of a grand jury subpoena marked on a continuing basis and was told if he interfered with Bentley in the future he would be recalled and brought before a grand jury to explain his actions. In a memorandum from the New York Office dated May 16, 1952, which is attached, the details concerning this matter were set forth. Special Agent John J. Danahy, who was present at the conference, states he was introduced to Wright by U. S. Attorney Lane, who did all the talking at the conference. Danahy states he at no time made any remarks to Wright of any kind. Wright has a criminal record, having been arrested by Connecticut State Police on May 14, 1934, for breaking and entering, and received six months' imprisonment; arrested May 7, 1938, by Police Department, Watton, Connecticut, on aggravated assault and received three months' imprisonment. A doctor who examined Wright described him as below average mentally and a braggart and an adolescent type.

Attachment

134-435

EJL:brg:amg

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



### RECOMMENDATION

In view of the fact that Wright admitted his assault on Bentley and has a criminal record, no action appears warranted in this matter and it is recommended that no acknowledgment of Wright's letter be made.

### DETAILS

There is attached a memorandum from John B. Wright of Madison, Connecticut, dated March 9, 1953, with which he enclosed a Photostat of a grand jury subpoena dated May 12, 1952, calling for his appearance on May 14, 1952, and indicating the subpoena was to remain in effect. In his letter, Wright complains that when subpoenaed there had been a conference attended by himself, by Kyles J. Lane, United States Attorney, by a Special Agent of the FBI, and by Armand Chankalian, whom Wright claims was introduced to him as foreman of the grand jury but who at that time was actually an Administrative Assistant to the U. S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York.

Wright states that the Special Agent of the FBI refused to identify himself but showed his credentials, was exceedingly rude and repeatedly whispered to Lane. Wright in his letter states he feels the Agent should be given a lesson or two in proper behavior and manners and where he an employee of Wright's, he would be fired instantly. The facts behind this instance are as follows:

On May 7, 1952, Elizabeth Bentley advised the New York Office that on April 30, 1952, she had been assaulted by her handy man, John Burghardt Wright. Her doctor described her condition as quite serious due to this beating. Several teeth on the left side of her face were loosened and there were cuts on the inside of her mouth which had become infected. Upon telephonic instructions from the Bureau, the

New York Office made these facts known to United States Attorney Lane who assigned the matter to Assistant United States Attorney Roy Cohn for handling on the basis that Bentley was a very important witness in a number of pending cases which were scheduled for trial or coming before a Federal Grand Jury, including the Remington case. It was also noted that Bentley had been an important witness in the Julius Rosenberg case which was still before the appellate court. On May 14, 1952, Wright was subpoenaed before the Federal Grand Jury but was brought instead to United States Attorney Lane's office where he was interviewed and Wright during the conference admitted that he had struck Bentley. Lane informed Wright of the penalty he could receive for interfering with a Government witness and Wright agreed he would terminate any further relationship with Miss Bentley. He was left with a grand jury subpoena which was marked on a continuing basis and was cautioned that any further association with Bentley would result in his being recalled and brought before a Federal Grand Jury to explain his actions.

In the attached memorandum dated May 16, 1952, from the New York Office, it is indicated that Wright was born December 18, 1897, at Worcester, Massachusetts. He was arrested by the Connecticut State Police on May 11, 1934, and was convicted and sentenced to six months imprisonment. He was arrested on May 7, 1938, by the Police Department at Madison, Connecticut, for aggravated assault and was later sentenced to serve three months in prison. Dr. Samuel Groopman, Bentley's physician, who examined Wright on one occasion, contended that Wright was below average mentally, a braggart and an adolescent type. He felt that Wright intended physical harm to Bentley and there was no question in his mind that Bentley was afraid of Wright. It would appear doubtful from Dr. Groopman's description of Wright that he actually wrote the letter which has now been received at the Bureau and it would appear more likely that someone prepared this letter for him. It is also to be noted that he has waited almost a year to complain about the actions of our Agent. In view

of the allegations concerning a Special Agent, Mr. Hennrich contacted ASAC Whelan at New York, and he advised on March 16, 1953, that the Agent at the conference was Special Agent John J. Danahy (EOD - 7-27-42, GS-13, \$8,360.00, MIFO). Danahy was present at the conference at the specific request of U. S. Attorney Lane. Danahy states the conference was of short duration, about thirty minutes in all, with Lane doing all the talking. Danahy was introduced to Wright by Lane, his name being given. Danahy did not exhibit any credentials as alleged by Wright. Danahy sat ten to fifteen feet from Lane and did not whisper to Lane, and he was not at any time rude to Wright, Lane having done all the talking.

Danahy states Armand Chankalian, then an Administrative Assistant to Lane, came in during the conference and listened to what took place but did not take an active part in the conference.

In view of the fact that Wright admitted his assault on Bentley and has a criminal record, no action in connection with this matter would appear warranted, and it is not felt necessary to acknowledge Wright's letter.

Bureau files reflect that on 5-7-52 Elizabeth Bentley advised the New York Office that on 4-30-52 she had been assaulted by her handyman, John Burghardt Wright. Miss Bentley's condition was quite serious as a result of the beating inflicted on her by Wright. Upon telephonic instructions from the Bureau, the New York Office made these facts known to USA Myles Lane who assigned the matter to AUSA Roy Cohn. On 5-13-52 a conference was held in the office of USA Lane at which were present AUSA Cohn, Miss Bentley, and an agent of the New York Office. Wright was subpoenaed to USA Lane's office on 5-14-52 and explained to Lane that on the occasion of striking Miss Bentley he had had some drinks before driving her home and perhaps was influenced because of this. USA Lane then cautioned Wright and advised him of the penalty he might suffer for interfering with a Government witness, and he agreed that he would terminate any further relationship with Miss Bentley. Wright was left in possession of a Grand Jury subpoena which was marked on a continuing basis, and was cautioned by Lane that he, Wright, be reported as having any association with Bentley in the future, he would be recalled and brought before a Grand Jury to explain his actions. -- Attached is a memorandum from the New York Office dated 5-16-52 setting forth the above information. It will be noted that this memorandum bears the initials of TGS who may be identical with Special Agent Thomas G. Spencer.

EOD: 4-18-38, GS-13 \$9160.

134-435-74

COPI/101

Madison, Connecticut  
March 9, 1953

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Tele. Rm.	
Mr. Holloman	
Mr. Sizoo	
Miss Gandy	

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

At a meeting indicated in the enclosed photostat,  
were present:

Myles J. Lane; A Special Agent of the F.B.I.;  
Armand Chankalian and myself, John B. Wright.

Armand Chankalian was introduced to me as foreman  
of a grand jury.

The Special Agent of the F.B.I. refused to identify  
himself to me. He showed us credentials, was exceedingly  
rude, and repeatedly whispered to Lane.

The meeting was not designed to hear information  
of section 1503, Title 18 USC as indicated on the subpoena.

It was designed as a "scare meeting" because of  
physical violence used by me upon one Elizabeth T. Bentley,  
a Communist and dangerous character.

Lane, apparently is no longer in the employ of  
the U.S. government. However, if your special agent who  
attended the meeting still is in your employ - he should  
be given a lesson or two in proper behavior and manners.

Were he my employee he would not receive the  
lesson. He would be fired instantly.

Very truly yours,

/s/ John B. Wright

Handwritten notes: "to [unclear] 5-8-2"

Handwritten: "313253"

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

*(Handwritten initials)*

At a meeting indicated in the enclosed photostat, were present:

- Myler S. Lane
- A Special Agent of the F.B.I.
- Armand Chankalian
- and myself, John B. Wright.

Armand Chankalian was introduced to me as foreman of a Grand Jury.

The Special Agent of the F.B.I. refused to identify himself to me. He showed no credentials, was exceedingly rude and repeatedly whispered to Lane.

RECORDED - 100

134-435-741

The meeting was not designed to hear information on an alleged violation of

Section 1507, Title 18 USC as indicated.

on the Del. Cir.

It was designed as a "scare meeting" because of physical violence used by me upon one Elizabeth T. Bentley, a Communist and dangerous character.

Lane, apparently is no longer in the employ of the U.S. Government. However if your Special agent who attended the meeting still is in your employ - he should be given a lesson or two in proper behavior and manners.

True he may employ<sup>er</sup> he would not receive the lesson. He would be fired instantly.

Very truly yours

John B. Wright





## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4-10-53

FROM : SAC, RICHMOND (80-2)

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH BENTLEY  
INFORMATION CONCERNING - RESEARCH

For the information of the Bureau, former Special Agent JOHN E. LAWLER called me today and informed me that ELIZABETH BENTLEY has accepted an invitation to speak before the West End Catholic Men's Association, Richmond, Virginia on May 7, 1953. Lawler is Vice-President of this Association which is a large and influential Catholic men's association in the City of Richmond. He is, of course, aware of BENTLEY's former association with the Bureau and thought that the Bureau might possibly be interested in knowing that she was going to speak in Richmond on May 7, 1953.

NRJ:GTC

RECORDED - 123

134-435-75  
APR 13 1953  
J. De  
JND

APR 16 1953

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New York (65-14603)  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
 ESP-R

DATE: 4/10/53

As you are aware, ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY is presently residing at Grand Coteau, Louisiana, where she is teaching Romance Languages at the College of the Sacred Heart. This letter is being forwarded in order that the New Orleans Office may be aware of some of the problems of handling Miss BENTLEY.

For the most part, she has been quite cooperative with the various Agents who have had occasion to contact her. However, she is somewhat of a hypochondriac and subject to periods of depression during which she feels extremely sorry for herself. In addition, she is somewhat improvident in the management of her personal funds and in the past has gotten herself rather heavily in debt. Her indebtedness has served to add to her depression on several occasions and this coupled with the fact that she is presently undergoing the menopause has at times made her difficult to handle. She is somewhat secretive concerning her personal affairs until such time as these affairs get her into difficulty, at which point she has been prone to call upon the Bureau to assist her in overcoming her difficulties.

For the most part, however, when she is not beset by her real and fancied worries, she is friendly and cooperative and relatively undemanding. It is hoped that with steady employment in an atmosphere where she is not under too much pressure she will be quite emotionally stable.

Miss BENTLEY did not ask for nor did she receive payment for her services until last year when, because she was in poor financial condition she was paid \$50.00 a week for the six months' period beginning on 7/17/52. In addition, she was given a lump sum payment of \$500.00 to assist her in payment of some debts which were then pressing her and causing her considerable emotional upset. Bureau authorization was granted to pay her \$50.00 weekly for an additional three months' period but because of the fact that her departure to Louisiana was imminent, she was paid only \$100.00 under this authorization. Prior to her departure she made no demands for further payment; however, it is known that she was in somewhat poor financial condition prior to her departure and some financial demands may be forthcoming. Should they arise, the New Orleans Office should, of course, advise the Bureau explaining the circumstances and request authorization for payments.

There is being forwarded with this letter to New Orleans a photostatic copy of the report of SA THOMAS G. SPENCER, made at New York, 12/5/45,

2 - New Orleans (Enc.-1)

RECORDED  
SE 41134-435-76  
APR 13 1953

50 MAY 5 1953

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

which contains the signed statement of ELIZABETH BENTLEY dated 11/30/45. This statement contains much of the basic information which she has furnished concerning her espionage contacts. Of course, subsequent to this statement she has been questioned on many occasions for details regarding individuals mentioned by her and for information concerning other individuals with whom she might have come in contact.

It is requested that the enclosed report be returned to New York should Miss BENTLEY's employment at the College of the Sacred Heart be terminated and she returns to her home in Madison, Connecticut, for permanent residence. However, if at the close of the current school year it appears she is to return to the college in the fall, New Orleans should retain possession of this report.

It is suggested that contacts with Miss BENTLEY be assigned exclusively to an experienced Agent who has thoroughly familiarized himself of the contents of this letter and the enclosed report. It is further suggested that contacts with her be maintained at a minimum in order that the Agent does not encroach upon her time too much. It is believed that with proper planning it will be unnecessary to contact her more than once a month unless some emergency situation arises which will make more frequent contacts imperative.

Director, FBI

4/10/53

SAC, New York (65-14603)

ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
ESP-R

As you are aware, ELIZABETH T. BENTLEY is presently residing at Grand Coteau, Louisiana, where she is teaching Romance Languages at the College of the Sacred Heart. This letter is being forwarded in order that the New Orleans Office may be aware of some of the problems of handling Miss BENTLEY.

For the most part, she has been quite cooperative with the various Agents who have had occasion to contact her. However, she is somewhat of a hypochondriac and subject to periods of depression during which she feels extremely sorry for herself. In addition, she is somewhat improvident in the management of her personal funds and in the past has gotten herself rather heavily in debt. Her indebtedness has served to add to her depression on several occasions and this coupled with the fact that she is presently undergoing the menopause has at times made her difficult to handle. She is somewhat secretive concerning her personal affairs until such time as these affairs get her into difficulty, at which point she has been prone to call upon the Bureau to assist her in overcoming her difficulties.

For the most part, however, when she is not beset by her real and fancied worries, she is friendly and cooperative and relatively undemanding. It is hoped that with steady employment in an atmosphere where she is not under too much pressure she will be quite emotionally stable.

Miss BENTLEY did not ask for nor did she receive payment for her services until last year when, because she was in poor financial condition she was paid \$50.00 a week for the six months' period beginning on 7/17/52. In addition, she was given a lump sum payment of \$500.00 to assist her in payment of some debts which were then pressing her and causing her considerable emotional upset. Bureau authorization was granted to pay her \$50.00 weekly for an additional three months' period but because of the fact that her departure to Louisiana was imminent, she was paid only \$100.00 under this authorization. Prior to her departure she made no demands for further payment; however, it is known that she was in somewhat poor financial condition prior to her departure and some financial demands may be forthcoming. Should they arise, the New Orleans Office should, of course, advise the Bureau explaining the circumstances and request authorization for payments.

There is being forwarded with this letter to New Orleans a photostatic copy of the report of SA THOMAS G. SPENCER, made at New York, 12/5/45,

2 - New Orleans (Enc.-1)

LOG:EC

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14603

which contains the signed statement of ELIZABETH BENTLEY dated 11/30/45. This statement contains much of the basic information which she has furnished concerning her espionage contacts. Of course, subsequent to this statement she has been questioned on many occasions for details regarding individuals mentioned by her and for information concerning other individuals with whom she might have come in contact.

It is requested that the enclosed report be returned to New York should Miss BENTLEY's employment at the College of the Sacred Heart be terminated and she returns to her home in Madison, Connecticut, for permanent residence. However, if at the close of the current school year it appears she is to return to the college in the fall, New Orleans should retain possession of this report.

It is suggested that contacts with Miss BENTLEY be assigned exclusively to an experienced Agent who has thoroughly familiarized himself of the contents of this letter and the enclosed report. It is further suggested that contacts with her be maintained at a minimum in order that the Agent does not encroach upon her time too much. It is believed that with proper planning it will be unnecessary to contact her more than once a month unless some emergency situation arises which will make more frequent contacts imperative.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : Jem, S.O., New Orleans (#134-89)  
 SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY (g)  
 ESP-R

DATE: May 1, 1953

~~SECURITY INFORMATION -  
 CONFIDENTIAL~~

The following letter was received this date by the New Orleans Office from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, New Orleans, regarding captioned individual:

"This office has been directed to contact ELIZABETH VERRILL BENTLEY with a view of ascertaining her potential value to this Service as a part-time consultant. She presently resides at Grand Coteau, Louisiana.

"Please advise if this proposed investigation will interfere with any investigative action you may be taking or contemplate taking in the near future."

No reply will be forwarded to I & N S, New Orleans, until instructions for same are furnished by the Bureau.

RFC:sh  
REGISTERED

DECLASSIFIED BY 5886  
 2/23/78

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
 AND FIELD OFFICES  
 ADVISED BY ROUTING  
 SLIP(S) OF declared  
 DATE 2/24/78 BY 605

174 2 3-034H 23  
 RECORDED 110  
 SE 43-811 134-435  
 MAY 1 1953

~~SECURITY INFORMATION -  
 CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, New Orleans (134-89)

May 11, 1953

RECORDED - 110

Director, FBI (134-435)

134-435-44  
ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reurmemo dated May 1, 1953, requesting advice on how to reply to a communication from the Immigration and Naturalization Service in New Orleans, indicating it is considering utilizing Bentley as a part-time consultant. You should inform the Immigration and Naturalization Service that we have over a period of years maintained contact with Elizabeth Bentley, and that it is contemplated that we will continue to contact her periodically for information. We have no objection to her being utilized by the INS as a part-time consultant if she so desires.

The New Orleans Office should make arrangements to determine if Bentley is employed as a part-time consultant by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

RJL:awn  
191

RECEIVED  
MAY 11 1953

50 MAY 22 1953

MAILED 8  
MAY 11 1953  
COMM - FBI

No fee 6-26-53  
Letter will be submitted 6-29-53  
F2

[Handwritten signature]

SE [Handwritten initials]

92

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)

DATE: June 12, 1953

FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS

REGISTERED MAIL

SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
ESPIONAGE - R

Re New York letter to Bureau dated 4/10/53.

Miss BENTLEY, who has for the past scholastic year been teaching at the College of the Sacred Heart, Grand Coteau, Louisiana, advised SAS MILTON R. KAACK and WRIGHT PATTON on June 10, 1953 that she was leaving for New York via Eastern Airlines on June 11, 1953. Miss BENTLEY stated that she planned to be in New York and vicinity until the early part of September.

As far as she knows now, she will return to her teaching position at the College of the Sacred Heart at that time. Miss BENTLEY did not know where she would be staying in New York. She stated that she would immediately get in touch with agents of the New York office upon her arrival there.

Miss BENTLEY has not been paid for her services while in the New Orleans division. She volunteered information that teachers were not paid well for their service at the College of the Sacred Heart and also informed that she had not been able to rent or sell her cottage in Madison, Connecticut.

Inasmuch as most of the information requested of Miss BENTLEY comes either through or from the New York office, and that office is, therefore, in a position to estimate the volume of information, which she will be called on to furnish, New York is requested to make suggestions as to payments to Miss BENTLEY if and when she returns to the New Orleans division.

WP:jm

134-89

lcc - New York (65-14603) - REGISTERED MAIL

lcc - Washington Field (Info.) - REGISTERED MAIL

DECLASSIFIED BY

5896

- CH

2/23/78

RECORDED - 95

134-435-78

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 7/24/79

78 JUN 22 1953

SECRET INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

2256



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-435)  
FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS (134-89)  
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/29/53

(1)

29612

Rebulet dated May 11, 1953 requesting that this office determine if BENTLEY is employed as a part-time consultant by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Mr. JOHN OWENS, agent, Immigration and Naturalization Service, New Orleans, advised on June 29, 1953 that he had been unsuccessful in locating Miss BENTLEY for an interview prior to her departure from New Orleans on June 11, 1953, and that he has advised his office in Washington of this fact. Mr. OWENS stated that he would not know whether or not the Washington office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service will further pursue this matter of BENTLEY's employment as a part-time consultant. RUC.

WP:jm  
134-89

RECORDED - 24

25 JUL 1 1953

134-435-79

62 JUL 15 1953

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont  
FROM : V. P. Healy  
SUBJECT: ELIZABETH LENTLEY

DATE: June 1, 1953

Mr. William Morse of the Central Office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Washington, D. C., contacted Supervisor John E. Foley on June 24, 1953 to advise that his service contemplates employing Elizabeth Lentley as a consultant for about one week, and inquired whether the Bureau had any objection.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Mr. Morse be advised that this Bureau has no objection to her employment.

J. E. Foley/jm

ADDENDUM: 6/30/53 Mr. Morse of INS was advised accordingly.

J. E. Foley/jm

RECORDED-74

134-435-80

1 1953

EX-112

94  
JUL 8 1953